EXCURSIONS through SUFFOLK Illustrated with ENGRAVINGS

VOL. I.

ARMS of IPSWICH

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*** *The Subscribers to the* EXCURSIONS THROUGH THE COUNTIES OF ESSEX, SUFFOLK, AND NORFOLK, *are requested not to bind up the First Volumes until the completion of the Second; as many of the Plates already given, properly belong to the unpublished Letter-press, with which Prefaces, Indexes, and Directions for placing the Plates, will be given.*

EXCURSIONS THROUGH SUFFOLK.

SUFFOLK is bounded on the north by Norfolk, on the east by the German ocean, on the south by Essex, and on the west by Cambridgeshire. It is, according to Mr. Hodgkinson's map, an oblong of about 47 miles in length, and 27 in breadth, forming altogether a surface of nearly 1269 square miles; according to Templeman, only 1236: but Mr. Arthur Young computes the superficial contents at about 800,000 acres. These are divided into 22 hundreds, containing 523 parishes. Suffolk has a population of 111,988 males, and 122,223 females, making a total of 234,211 persons. The climate of this county has long been noticed as one of the driest in the kingdom; the frosts are also severe, and the north-east winds which prevail in spring are generally sharp. But, though, like the western extremity of this island, Suffolk is not calculated to favour the weak and consumptive stranger, it is upon the whole extremely healthful, especially if we calculate upon the average mortality of the county for ten years, which, compared with the existing population, has been found as one to 54, while the number of births was as one to 30.

There is in this county a considerable variety of soil, nor is the diversity any where more distinctly

marked. The whole, however, may be conveniently divided into four sorts, clay, sand, loam, and fen.

The first sort of soil comprehends the whole midland part of the county, through nearly its whole extent from east to west, and forms about two-thirds of the land. It consists of a strong or clayey loam; much of it high land, and flat, but occasionally diversified by small vales, the bottoms and sides of which are of a superior quality, being in general composed of rich friable loams. This district is called High Suffolk.

The next sort of soil consists chiefly of sand, and lies in opposite sides of the county. The maritime part, from the Ipswich river to Yarmouth, is chiefly of this description, towards the north inclining to loam. Much of this district is highly cultivated, and one of the most profitable. Mr. Young seems to think it one of the best cultivated in England; but most experienced farmers will now be inclined to give that character to the cultivation of the district called High Suffolk. The rest of the sand district lies on the western side of the county, and comprises nearly the whole north-western angle. It contains few spots of such rich sand lands as we find on the coast, but abounds with warrens and poor sheep-walks. Towards the borders of Norfolk it is very light and blowing.

The third district is that of loam; this is but a small portion of the county, and is chiefly confined to the hundred of Samford, with a small part of Colnies, near the coast. This is not so clearly discriminated as the others; it is composed of a vein of friable, putrid, vegetable mould, of extraordinary fertility.

The remaining division is fen, and is merely the north-west corner, to the left of a line drawn from

Brandon to the conflux of the rivers Ouse and Lark. Its surface to some depth is common peat bog, and is in places under water, though much expense has been incurred for draining.

Suffolk is watered by the Stour, which rises on the west side of the county, on the borders of Cambridgeshire; by the Gipping, which has its source near the centre of the county, and falls into the Orwell; by the Deben, which rises near Debenham; by the Ald, the Ore, the Blythe, and the Larke. The Blythe has its source near Laxfield, and falls into the sea at Southwold. The Ald is a trifling stream, which rises in Knoddishall, and passing through Aldringham, falls into the sea about a mile to the north of Aldeburgh. The Ore rises about Dennington, and passing Framlingham, Aldeburgh, and Orford, falls into Hollesley Bay. The Waveney rises at Lopham Ford, and passing Diss, Harleston, Bungay, and Beccles, falls into the Yar, and forms, through its whole course, the boundaries between the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. The Little Ouse rises within a very small distance from the source of the Waveney, but takes a contrary direction, and continues the boundary of the two counties till it joins the Larke in the fens.

The roads in every part of Suffolk are excellent, the late improvements in them being almost inconceivable. In most directions the cross roads are equal to those that have turnpikes.

Many modern enclosures have been made by acts of parliament, which examples, in favourable times, will no doubt be followed, the success having already been such as to encourage the practice; and as to landed

property, there is no estate in Suffolk that can be considered as overgrown.

The cottages are in general warm and convenient, and the comforts of the poor at home are greater than in most counties in England. The amount of the money raised for the poor here is not by any means overwhelming, though the pressure of the late times is still severely felt in some parts of the county; and with respect to the incorporated hundreds, the result of the incorporations has been highly conducive, not only to the diminution of the poor rates, but to the comfort and happiness of the poor themselves.

In the time of the Romans the inhabitants of this part of the country were called the *Iceni*, or *Cenomanni*, and by them it was included in the province of *Flavia Cæsarensis*. Under the Saxons it formed a part of the kingdom of East Anglia, and was called Suffolk, from *Sudfolk*, i. e. southern folk, or people. Though the precise period of the establishment of the monarchy of the East Angles, by Uffa, cannot be ascertained, as the history of his successor Titil is involved in total darkness, it is certain that Uffa died in the year 578. In fact, the whole of this and some of the adjacent counties being compelled to yield to a succession of foreign and domestic depredators, knew of little respite till some time after the death of Edward the Confessor. This county, in particular, suffered much from Sweyne, King of Denmark, who spared neither towns nor churches unless redeemed by the people with large sums of money; though to compensate in some measure for this cruelty, Canute, his son and successor, shewed it particular kindness.

But the celebrity of Suffolk, and particularly that of St. Edmund's Bury, was reserved for the time of the Saxons. The history of St. Edmund, which is involved in considerable obscurity, seems to be that of a weak but well-disposed prince, entirely under the influence of an ambitious and designing priesthood. The death of this meek monarch is veiled under equal uncertainty with his life. Our ancient chronicles make him the innocent cause of his own death, and of a more dreadful visitation of the Danes than this country had experienced before. Lodbrog, a king of Denmark, they tell us, was very fond of hawking, and one day while enjoying that sport, his favourite bird fell into the sea. Anxious to save his hawk, Lodbrog leaped into the first boat that presented itself, but this being carried away by a sudden storm, after encountering many dangers, was driven up the mouth of the river Yare, as far as Reedham in Norfolk. Being conducted to Edmund, who then kept his court at Caistor, near Yarmouth, he was most courteously received, and being fond of hawking, the king ordered Bern, his own falconer, whenever Lodbrog went upon that sport to accompany him. This Bern, being jealous of the stranger's skill, one day took the opportunity of murdering the Dane and burying his body, which was discovered soon after by the running backward and forward of his favourite greyhound. This, and other circumstances, having fixed the guilt of Bern, he was most unaccountably condemned by King Edmund to be turned adrift alone in Lodbrog's boat, without oar or sail. Being wafted in safety to Denmark, Bern was seized, and carried to Inguar and Hubba, the sons of Lodbrog, who questioning him concerning their father,

the villain assured them that he had been put to death by Edmund's command. Inflamed with rage, the sons resolved on revenge, and soon raised 20,000 men to invade his dominions. This armament is said to have sailed in the year 865, but landing in the north of England, they do not seem to have reached Suffolk till 870, when Inguar gained possession of Thetford, then King Edmund's capital; and after a sanguinary battle and much negotiation, Edmund resolved to surrender to the superior force sent against him by Hubba and Inguar; but as he still refused, from religious motives, to accede to the terms of his enemies, they bound him to a tree, at Hoxne, pierced his body with arrows, and his head being cut off, it was thrown into a neighbouring thicket, where, after a long search, it was found by some of his faithful subjects, being in the possession of a wolf, who, holding it up between his fore feet, very civilly delivered up his charge, which being immediately joined to the body, the whole was interred at Hoxne, but not without the attendance of the wolf, who afterwards withdrew to his native woods. The apology for reciting these legendary tales is their intimate connexion with a part of this county, but particularly Bury, where even the arms of the town have been formed to commemorate the savage protector of the royal monarch's head, and which has also furnished a number of artists with a favourite subject for the exercise of their various abilities. Two fine specimens of painted glass were in the possession of Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, bart. of Bury. One exhibits a bust of St. Edmund, crowned, and inscribed in black letter *Sct. Ed.* The other represents the wolf holding his head between his paws. Underneath are also in

black letters the words *heer, heer, heer*; said to have been the exclamation of the head when his friends were looking for it! and above is this inscription, *In salutem fidelium.* These ancient performances are in fine preservation, the colours uncommonly brilliant, and the designs remarkable for clearness and precision. Other examples of this nature appear in the engravings to Yate's Monastic History. After the course of some years, the ecclesiastics having reported that miracles were wrought at the grave of St. Edmund at Hoxne, a large church was constructed for the reception of his body, at Beodricsworth, or Bury, to which place it was removed; and as some ecclesiastics immediately devoted themselves to a monastic life, under the protection of the royal saint and martyr, to these circumstances St. Edmund's Bury owed its first rise and its growing consequence. Canute, as before observed, favoured Suffolk on account of the cruelties practised by his Danish predecessors. He even heaped grants and privileges upon the abbot and convent, and took it under his special protection. Many royal and noble personages were afterwards drawn to Bury from motives of piety and the fame of its abbey. Henry I. came here in the year 1132 to pay his devotions at the shrine of St. Edmund, out of gratitude for his deliverance from a tempest on his return from France. Here too a considerable army was formed during the contest between Henry II. and his sons, to support the cause of their rightful sovereign against Robert de Beaumont, Earl of Leicester, who had landed at Walton, in this county, and Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, at Framlingham Castle, who had espoused the same cause: these earls being met by the royal army, on their march

into Leicestershire, were defeated after a sanguinary engagement, the Earl of Leicester and his countess taken prisoners, and at least five thousand of their followers slain. In this engagement the standard of St. Edmund was borne before the royal army. Richard I. before and after his departure for the Holy Land, paid a visit to St. Edmund's shrine, and the honour of a visit was conferred upon this celebrated town by several of his successors, down to the time of Queen Elizabeth, who arrived at Bury on the 7th of August, 1578, in her journey through Norfolk and Suffolk.

In the fourth year of the reign of James I. this monarch granted the town of Bury a charter of incorporation. Ten years after he gave the reversion of the houses, tythes, and glebes, called the almoner's barns, and of the fairs and markets of the town in fee farm, the reversion of the gaol, with the office of gaoler belonging to the liberty of Bury, and also the toll-house, afterwards the market cross, in present possession. Some years after he gave the churches, with the bells, libraries, and other appurtenances; also the rectories, oblations, and profits of the same churches not formerly granted; and much enlarged the liberties of the corporation for the better government of the town. At the same time he confirmed to the feoffees of Bury all lands and possessions given by former benefactors.

EXCURSION I.

From Bury St. Edmund's through Sudbury to Neyland, Bury St. Edmund's, Whelnethan, Bradfield, Alpheton, Long Melford, Rodbridge, Tudbury, Newton, Marshals Green, Neyland.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S is pleasantly situated on the west side of the river Larke, and having a charming enclosed country on the south and south-west, with champaign fields extending into Norfolk, is upon the whole so salubrious as to be called the Montpellier of England. The streets, which are always clean, are wide, well paved, and lighted, and have been very much improved by the erection of modern buildings. Bury, including the suburbs, is about a mile and a quarter broad from east to west, and about one and a half in length from south to north. It is divided into two parishes, and according to the returns made in 1811, the population of this town was 7938.

Bury is certainly very ancient, as about the year 638, Sigbert, fifth monarch of the East Angles, founded a christian church and monastery here, which Dugdale says was denominated the monastery of St. Mary at Beodericworth; but after Canute founded his monastery here, the name of Beoderic fell into disrepute, and the place began to be called Burgh, or Bury. Edmund

succeeded his uncle Offa, king of the East Angles, in 855, but his life, as indicated before, is disguised under a veil of impenetrable fiction. Edward the Confessor considerably increased the fame, wealth, and importance of the abbey of Bury; he granted to the abbot and convent the town of Mildenhall, with its produce and inhabitants, the royalties of eight hundreds, with the half hundred of Thingoe and several other villages. He also granted them the privileges of coining at a mint within the precincts of the monastery, and when he paid his devotions in person to the shrine of the royal martyr, his veneration was such, that he used to perform the last mile of the journey on foot.

The first church, built by Ailwin in 1032, being demolished, the monks, in the time of William the Conqueror, were induced to erect another of hewn stone, under the direction of Abbot Baldwin, with a view of giving the body of their saint a more magnificent receptacle than before. In 1095, this building was in a state to receive the body. The church then built continued till the period of the dissolution. Of this faded magnificence, old Leland has drawn a lively sketch: he had seen it in all its glory, and speaking of this and the town he uses these terms—"A city more neatly seated the sun never saw, so curiously doth it hang upon a gentle descent, with a little river on the east side; nor a monastery more noble, whether one considers its endowments, largeness, or unparalleled magnificence. One might even think this monastery alone a city: so many gates it has, some whereof are brass: so many towers, and a church, than which nothing can be more magnificent; as appendages to which there are three more of admirable beauty and work-

manship in the same churchyard." The abbey church, or that of St. Edmund, was 505 feet in length, the transept 212, and the west front 240. The latter had two large side chapels, St. Faith's, and St. Catherine's, one on the north-west, and the others on the south-west, and at each end an octagon tower, thirty feet each way. One of these, and part of this front, still remain. The shrine of St. Edmund was preserved in a semicircular chapel at the east end; and on the north side of the choir was the chapel of St. Mary, 80 feet long, and 42 broad. St. Mary in the crypt here was 100 feet long, 80 in breadth, and supported by 24 pillars. Besides the dome there was a high west tower over the middle aisle, but as to the height of the building there are no certain documents left to ascertain it with any degree of certainty.

The abbot of Bury had several great officers under him, as a prior, sub-prior, sacrist, and others, and in its most prosperous state it had 80 monks, 15 chaplains, and 111 servants attending within its walls. It had three grand entrance gates; and chapels, cloisters, and offices of every kind. The abbot was also exempted from any ecclesiastical authority, excepting that of the Roman pontiff, which often involved him in violent disputes. The abbot of Bury was a spiritual parliamentary baron; he held synods in his own chapter-house, and appointed the parochial clergy of the town; and by his high steward he possessed the right of trying and determining all causes within his franchise or liberty, and could inflict capital punishment. No officer of the king could, without his permission, hold a court, or execute any office in Bury. As lord of the town, he claimed the right of appointing the

alderman, though it was afterwards agreed that the corporation should enjoy the privilege of electing him: yet before the alderman entered upon his functions, he was obliged to obtain the abbot's confirmation, and to take an oath of allegiance, &c. It is presumed that the arrogance of these ecclesiastical rulers was the cause of many violent disputes between them and the towns people. One of these altercations had arisen to such a height in 1327, that the people, headed by their alderman and chief burgesses, after assembling near 20,000 persons from the neighbouring villages, attacked the abbey; and having demolished the gates, doors, and windows, and beaten the servants and adherents of the monks, they broke open the chests and coffers, plundering them of rich plate, books, vestments, and other valuables, besides 500 pounds in English money, and 3000 florins. They also carried away three charters of Canute, four of Hardicanute, one of Edward the Confessor, two of Henry I. three of Henry III. 12 papal bulls, with several deeds, written obligations and acknowledgments for money due to the convent. Great part of the monastery was reduced to ashes, and many of the manors and granges belonging to it in the town and its vicinity shared the same fate. The abbot being then in London, the insurgents seized and confined Peter Clopton, the prior, and about 20 of the monks, whom they compelled, in the name of the whole chapter, to execute under their seal a deed constituting the burgesses a town or corporation. They also obliged them to sign an agreement for the payment of 10,000*l.* to certain of the townsmen, to discharge them from all debts due to the monastery, and to engage not to proceed against them by law for any

damage they had committed. The king interfering in this business, 30 carts full of the rioters were soon after taken to Norwich; 19 of the most notorious were executed, one pressed to death for refusing to plead, and 32 parochial clergymen convicted as abettors. The investigations that followed this affair lasted nearly five years, as the final decision was not given in council by Edward III. till 1332. The amount of the damages done had been estimated at the enormous sum of 140,000*l.*; but at the king's request the abbot remitted to the offenders 122,333*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* and at length forgave them the residue upon the condition of their better behaviour in future. Berton, the alderman, Herling, 32 priests, 13 women, and 138 other inhabitants of the town, were outlawed; but some of these, it is said, to revenge the abbot's breach of promise, surprised him at the manor of Chevington, where having bound and shaved him, they conveyed him to London, thence over sea into Flanders, where they detained him as a prisoner till he was discovered and rescued by some of his friends.

Five hundred and nineteen years did the monastery of St. Edmund's Bury remain in the possession of the Benedictine monks. Its regular revenues consisted of fifty-two knights' fees and three-quarters, together with the royalties of eight hundreds and a half, besides others, which in the 18th century it is thought would have equalized 200,000*l.* per annum. The report made by the commissioners, at the time of the dissolution, respecting this abbey, was as follows: "We have found a rich shrine, which was very cumberous to deface. We have taken in gold and silver 500 marks and above, besides a rich cross with emeralds,

and divers stones of great value; and yet we have left the church, abbot, and convent, very well furnished with plate of silver necessary for the same." Among the relics found here, were the coals upon which St. Laurence was broiled, the parings of St. Edmund's nails, the penknife of St. Thomas of Canterbury, with his boots, skulls for curing the head-ache, pieces of the cross, &c. &c.

Among other superstitious practices suggested by the prurient imaginations of these monks, the sacrist of this monastery, as often as he let the manor of Haberdon, annexed this condition, that the tenant should provide a white bull whenever a matron of rank, or any other, should come out of devotion, or in consequence of a vow, to make the oblation of the white bull at the shrine of St. Edmund. The animal, then adorned with ribbons and garlands, was brought to the south gate of the monastery, and led along Churchgate, Guildhall, and the Abbey-gate streets, to the great west gate, the lady all the while keeping close to him, and the monks and people forming a numerous cavalcade. The procession ended, the animal was conducted back to his pasture, while the lady repaired to St. Edmund's shrine, when the certain consequence of her oblations was her soon becoming a mother. Foreign ladies were allowed to do this by proxy.

During the prosperity of the abbey church, it had within its precinct three others, St. Margaret, St. Mary, and St. James. The former is now used as the town-hall; the others are the two churches for the two parishes into which Bury is divided. St. Mary's was finished in the year 1433. It is 139 feet long, exclusive of the chancel. It is divided into three aisles

by two rows of slender and elegant columns: the chancel is 74 feet by 68. The roof of the nave, constructed in France, and put together after it was brought to England, is much admired for its lightness and elegance. The finely carved figures of angels, supporting the principals of the roof, fortunately escaped the puritanical reformers of the 17th century. The north porch of this church is of curious workmanship. In 1644, as appears by the town books, numerous inscriptions and effigies in brass were torn off by the churchwardens of St. Mary's and St. James's, and sold for their own emolument. John Reeve, the last abbot of Bury, is interred in this church, as is also Sir Thomas Drury, privy councellor to Henry VII. and his successor, with Mary Tudor, the third daughter of Henry VII. queen of France, and afterwards wife to the Duke of Suffolk. Her tomb was extremely simple till the year 1758, when being ascertained, Dr. Symonds of Bury had it repaired at his own expense, and a marble tablet inserted. Opposite to the remains of a monument to Sir Robert Drury is that of Sir William Carew, who died in 1501, and his wife. The stone over John Finers, archdeacon of Sudbury in 1497, has a brass plate with his effigy, and an inscription in monkish Latin. In the vestry are the figures of John, commonly called Jankyn Smith, and his wife: he was a great benefactor to Bury.

St. James's church was originally built about the year 1200, by Abbot Sampson; but the present structure, though far advanced in 1500, was not finished till the reformation, when Edward VI. contributed to its completion. This church is built in the pointed style, and the west end is particularly beautiful; the windows are numerous, large, and handsome, and were originally

adorned with painted glass, executed in a masterly manner. The church gate is 30 feet distant from the body of the building, and serves as a steeple to it: this has been deemed one of the noblest specimens of Saxon architecture in the kingdom, and some are of opinion that it was built in the time of William the Conqueror. It is 80 feet in height, of a quadrangular figure, and remarkable for its simplicity and solidity. The stone of which it is constructed abounds with small shells, that have acquired such hardness as to resist the attack of seven centuries. Westward of this church gate, near the foundation, are two curious basso relievos in stone, in good preservation, expressive of the fall of man, and his deliverance from bondage. One of these exhibits God the Father, with flowing hair and a long parted beard, sitting triumphantly within a circle.

The two churchyards of St. James and St. Mary, which are nearly one, are kept in excellent order: an alley of lofty poplars runs diagonally across them, and forms a very pleasant promenade. Nearly in the centre, a small plot of ground, enclosed with iron railing, contains the receptacle provided by the late John Spink, esq. banker, of Bury, for him and his family, having over it a plain marble tablet. The remains of the west end of St. Edmund's church, which terminated the churchyard on one side, have lately exhibited a singular and motley spectacle. One of the octagon towers had been converted into a stable; three arches, once the entrance to the three aisles, have been filled up with three modern buildings; still the intermediate rugged portions of the original wall are visibly distinguished.

Clopton's Hospital, a handsome neat brick building,

stands in this churchyard. It was erected by the late Poley Clopton, M.D. for six poor men, and as many women. The arms of the founder appear on the front, and there is a Latin inscription below them; and underneath these, in very large letters, *Dorenavant Oubliez ne Doy.*

On the same side of the churchyard with this hospital is the residence of John Benjafield, esq. the building of which was supposed to have been a violation of public property, though not attempted without the assent of the corporation.

The *Shire Hall*, or Sessions-house, is on the opposite side of this churchyard: it is a building of modern erection, on the site of the ancient church of St. Margaret, and contains two convenient courts, in which civil and criminal causes are tried at the same time.

One of the principal ornaments of Bury is the *Abbey Gate*. This was the grand entrance to the monastery, and opened into the great courtyard in front of the abbot's palace. After the violent assault made by the townsmen on the former gate, in the year 1327, this was erected in its room. Its form is nearly a square, being 41 feet by 50, and 62 in height. The architecture is of the best period of the modern gothic. The numerous embellishments are tastefully arranged, and executed with considerable accuracy, though they are not so numerous as in the later and more florid style. Such, too, is the durability of the material, that though it has stood exposed to the elements for a number of years without roof, and without repairs, it is still in a state of uncommon preservation.

The west front, next the town, is divided into two horizontal compartments, by an ornamented band, and

perpendicularly into three, consisting of a centre, and two projecting wings of the turret kind. The whole is ornamented with devices and niches for statues: the canopies to these statues are formed of elegant groin work, and the pilasters of those in the centre, and in both wings, terminate in well wrought pinnacles. The spandrils of the arch above the gateway are adorned with two quatrefoil bosses or medallions, and over them, near the top of the building, are two others, each representing two interlaced triangles. The pillars of this gateway are composed of clustered cylinders, the capitals are simple, and are chiefly the gothic wreath. The counter arch of the entrance is surmounted by an undulated arch or pediment, springing from the external capitals. Below the embattled band which divides the building horizontally, is a cavetto moulding, ornamented with several figures, of which a lion, a dragon, and a bull worried by dogs, are still visible. The figure of the bull is 11 inches in length.

As a means of defence against any more violent entries, this gate was provided with a porteullis, which is apparent from a groove made for its reception in the wall and in the arch. The south-west and north-west angles contained winding staircases, by one of which some years since it was easy with care to ascend to the platform on the top, which has five embrasures at each end, and seven on each side. These staircases were originally surmounted by octagon towers; but one of them having been blown down at the beginning of last century, the other was demolished soon afterwards by way of precaution. The area is unequally divided by a stone partition. Its arch was furnished with

brass gates, of which the hinges alone remain. The entrance to the staircases are in the interior division of the area, so that if a rabble or an enemy had forced the portcullis, and obtained possession of the anti-gateway, the defendants would still have commanded the access to the upper part of their fortress, from whence they might have greatly annoyed the assailants. All these precautions, as well as the omission of windows next the town, strongly indicate the disposition of the monks to prevent any repetition of those outrages which occasioned the necessity of re-erecting this gate. The eastern, or interior division, forms a cube of about 28 feet; its walls are decorated with light and elegant tracery, and with the arms of Edward the Confessor, Thomas de Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, and the Duke of Exeter. A room seems to have been formed over this division, as vestiges of the roof, the floor, fire-place, &c. are still evident. There is a small window on each of the north and south sides, and in the east end a grand one overlooking the abbey grounds; this is adorned with tracery of peculiar richness and elegance. This side of the abbey-gate is very plain, having no other embellishments than three niches on each side, answering to those in the projecting wings of the west front; however, the symmetry and proportions of this beautiful arch are such as cannot fail striking the eye of taste with a high degree of admiration. This gate opens into the abbey grounds, still surrounded with the ancient lofty wall, and containing some masses of detached fragments of the various parts of the original structure. Several remains of antiquity have been at different times discovered in the garden.

Among the highly distinguished characters that were interred in the church belonging to this convent were Alan Fergaunt, Earl of Richmond, Thomas de Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, half brother to Edward II., Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, uncle to Henry V., Mary, widow of Lewis XII. of France, and sister to Henry VIII., whose remains were afterwards removed to St. Mary's church. Here also was interred John Lydgate, the monk, whose poetical talents conferred upon him no small distinction, considering the age in which he lived.

Part of the ruins of this church being removed by some labourers in 1772, a leaden coffin was discovered that had been enclosed in an oaken case, which was however quite decayed. The leaden coffin contained an embalmed body as fresh and entire as at the time of interment. It was immersed in a sort of pickle, and the face covered with a cerecloth. The nails of the toes and fingers, the hair, which was brown mixed with grey, and even the features of the face, appeared as perfect as ever. A surgeon, hearing of the circumstance, examined the body, and opening the head and breast, found the internal parts in a state of the highest preservation, retaining their natural appearance; and it is said that even some traces of blood were visible. When subjected to this inspection the body was not in the least putrid, but on being exposed to the air soon became offensive.

The labourers, for the sake of the lead, but by what authority we are not told, removed the body from the coffin, and threw it among the rubbish! It was soon discovered that this corpse, thus indignantly used, was the remains of Thomas Beaufort, son of John of

Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, by his third duchess, Lady Catharine Swinford, grandson of Edward III., and half brother to Henry IV. On this information the mangled remains were carefully enclosed in a strong oak coffin, and after their unjustifiable exposure again buried at the foot of the large north-east pillar which formerly contributed to support the belfry.

Some foundations of the north wall of St. Edmund's church, near the chapter-house, being broken up in the spring of 1783, four antique heads were discovered; they were somewhat larger than the natural proportion, and were cut out of single blocks of freestone, and though they have been conjectured to be Roman divinities, or designed for the decoration of some temple, the ruins of which might have been employed in constructing the church, it is obvious even from the inspection of the representations given in the History of Bury by Mr. Yates, that two of them were designed for the head of St. Edmund, accompanied by the leg of the wolf, his brute protector; and it is highly probable that the other two were rude designs on the same subject, though the latter had not any part of the quadruped remaining.

The *Guildhall* stands in the street of this name. The body of the building has been modernized; but for the gratification of the admirers of antiques the ancient porch, constructed of flint, brick, and stone, has been suffered to remain. The archives of the town are kept in a chamber over the entrance, under three keys, in the custody of the recorder, townclerk, and the alderman for the time being. The town sessions are held here, and the members of the corporation chosen at this place.

The *Free Grammar School* stands in Northgate-street, and has the bust of Edward the Sixth, who was the original founder, over the front door. The foundation supports forty scholars, and the school is free for the sons of the towns people or inhabitants, who generally amount to about 80. Adjoining the school is a handsome house for the upper master. This town also contains three charity schools, and others on the plan of Mr. Lancaster, &c.

Upon what is called Hog Hill, or the beast market, is the common Bridewell, formerly a Jewish synagogue, called *Moyse*, or *Moses Hall*. The circular windows are an evidence of its high antiquity, supposed to be not much later than the Norman conquest, before which period the Jews were not allowed to settle here. The dimensions of the building are thirty-six feet by twenty-seven. This toleration of the Jews was but of short continuance, for all their synagogues were closed or destroyed under the reign of Edward III.

The *Wool Halls* are at the upper side of the market: here great quantities of wool used to be deposited annually when that article formed the principal employment of the poorer inhabitants of Bury and its vicinity.

The *Angel Inn*, remarked as one of the most conspicuous buildings in the town, is upon the west side of Angel Hill. The vaults underneath this are said to have a subterraneous communication with those of the abbey, and to have belonged to it formerly.

The *New Gaol*, the late Mr. Neild observed, did honour to the county, and is superior to most in the kingdom; whether its construction to answer the three great purposes of security, health, and morals,

are considered, or the liberality of the magistrates in providing every comfort which can attend imprisonment. The neat rustic stone front of this building was completed in 1805, and the whole is enclosed by a boundary wall twenty feet high, forming an irregular octagon, having a diameter of 290 feet. Four of the sides measure 192 feet each, and the other four 70 feet and a half. The turnkey's lodge forms the entrance, and the flat leaded roof is the place of execution for criminals. The keeper's house, also an octagon building, is in the centre of the prison, and so situated that all the court yards, as well as the entrance to the gaol, are open to his inspection. The chapel is in the centre of the keeper's house, up one pair of stairs; and as stone galleries lead to it from the several wings, and as the chapel is partitioned off, each class of prisoners is separated there the same as when in the prison.

The *House of Correction* stands near this prison, in the centre of a piece of ground enclosed by a separate wall. This is a square building, and the classification of the different descriptions of prisoners, with the rules and regulations for their management, are truly excellent.

Bury, thus well provided with places of safety, and rich in the remains of antiquity, is not deficient in accommodations for the enjoyment of elegant and refined society. The *Theatre,* built in 1780, on the site of the old market cross, by Mr. Robert Adam, is no mean specimen of his taste and architectural skill. The body is of white brick, but the ornaments are of freestone. It has the advantage of standing unconnected with any other building. George, the second Earl of Bristol, gave 500*l.* towards the erection of this

theatre, and 400*l.* towards completing the shambles in the same square opposite the theatre, and which are also built of freestone.

The *Assembly Rooms* are on the south of the opening, known by the name of the Angel Hill. It is a recent erection, of a simple exterior. The ball-room is well proportioned, 76 feet in length, 45 in breadth, and 29 feet high. An adjoining apartment is used as a card and supper room, 37 feet by 24. The three balls held annually during the great fair are in general attended by numbers of the first rank and fashion, as are also the four or five winter balls; but trades people, however respectable, are always rigorously excluded.

The *Suffolk Library* is in the Abbeygate-street, and was formed by the union of two, one of them instituted in 1790, the other in 1795. The books are selected from those of the first respectability, and the sum expended for them annually has been estimated at 120*l.*

Bury used to be considerably enlivened by its fairs. It has three: the first on the Tuesday and two following days in Easter week; the second for three days before and three days after the feast of St. Matthew, Sept. 21; and the third on the second of December for two or three days. The alderman, as lord of the fairs for the time being, has a right to prolong them at pleasure. The second, which is the principal, generally continues three weeks. The charter for this was granted to the abbot in 1272 by King Henry III., and it was formerly one of the most celebrated marts in the kingdom. Being held on the Angel Hill, different rows of booths were appropriated to the manufacturers of Norwich, Ipswich, Colchester, London,

and other towns, and even to some foreigners, especially the Dutch. Bury, on this account, was the resort of persons of the highest distinction, for whom the abbot kept an open table, while those of inferior rank were entertained by the monks in the refectory. The widowed Queen of France, sister to Henry VIII., came here every year from her residence at Westhorp, with her noble consort, the Duke of Suffolk, and they had a magnificent tent for the reception of the numerous people of rank who came hither to pay their respects to them, and a band of music for their diversion. This fair, with respect to business, has been declining for more than a century past, and become rather a place of fashionable resort than a temporary mart, as most of the merchandize and goods now brought are articles of luxury and fancy.

Not far from the east gate stood *St. Nicholas Hospital,* the only vestiges of which at present are the original entrance, and one window on the north side, which is filled up. The building is now a farm house, and the chapel belonging to the hospital stands at a small distance to the west. It is an extensive building, and has seven buttresses on each side, but is much disfigured, as it now serves as a barn and a stable. On the north side of the road, between East Bridge and this hospital, the site of *St. Stephen's Hospital* is now recognized by a few fragments of the old wall.

The *Hospital of St. Petronilla* stood just beyond the south gate, and when this was not long since demolished, its chapel was left nearly entire. Its east window, of beautiful tracery, which was to be seen in 1810, is now walled up, and the edifice has been since used as a malt-house; a modern house is now erected

on the site. From a part of the hospital walls, lately used as fences, the building itself seemed to have been large; and as several human bones have been found in a small piece of ground between this and the chapel, this was probably the burial-place belonging to the foundation.

Our Lady's Chapel formerly stood near the west gate, and had a hermitage contiguous to it, which has since been used as a cowhouse.

Close to Risby Gate was a chantry called *Stone Chapel*, since the Cock public house. The neatly cemented flint stones of this edifice justly excite admiration. Not far from this spot is an octangular stone, which once served as a pedestal to a cross.

College Street, in Bury, is supposed to have derived its name from a religious house called *Jesus College*, founded by King Edward IV. in the 21st year of his reign; it consisted of a warden and six associates or priests. This building has been occupied as a workhouse.

With respect to scenery about Bury, the Vine fields eastward of this town command a charming view of the place, and particularly of the Church-gate, the Abbey-gate and grounds. This spot, which derives its name from the vineyard belonging to the monks, it is said still exhibits vestiges of the parterres. About the end of the twelfth century it is recorded that Robert de Gravele, sacrist of the convent, purchased this ground, and enclosed it with a stone wall for the solace of invalids, and of his friends.

The circumstance of a vineyard having existed in this, and in the vicinity of other religious houses, has given rise to some curious observations: a late writer,

Williams, on the climate of Great Britain, contends with much probability on his side, "that it has been gradually growing colder and less favourable for the production of those fruits which require a genial sun." This hypothesis he supports by the fact, that some centuries ago the vineyards, chiefly belonging to abbeys and religious houses, were highly flourishing, and yielded abundance of wine, with which the pious fathers of those times felt no repugnance to solace themselves. It might perhaps be imagined that our ancestors possessed some method of training and managing the vine, which has been lost in the lapse of ages; but this militates too strongly against the proud progress since made in every branch of science. The more probable conjecture is, that people of former times were contented with a beverage which modern refinement in luxuries would reject with disdain.

St. Edmund's Hill. This is a very elegant seat, erected in the vicinity of this town in 1773, from a plan by Mr. Adam, by John Symonds, LL.D. professor of modern history and languages in the university of Cambridge. From the beautiful eminence on which it stands, few spots in Suffolk are supposed to afford a prospect so pleasing and extensive. This is now the residence of Martin Thomas Cocksedge, esq.

During the late war, a little to the southward of the town, a brick edifice, with two small detached wings, was erected as a magazine for arms and ammunition. The necessity for this at present is completely done away by a happier change of circumstances.

The gates of this town, five in number, have been taken down about half a century ago, to afford a more convenient passage for carriages. At each of these

gates there was formerly either an hospital or some religious foundation, or both. Beyond the north gate on the east side, and close to the Thetford road, are the ruins of *St. Saviour's Hospital*, once a most extensive building, as in the year 1446 the parliament assembled here. A stately portal seems to have distinguished the entrance: the ground which this occupied, and the fragments of a large window above it, still remain, as does also a part of the wall which surrounded the hospital and its offices.

Bury St. Edmund's, it has been observed, though seated on two rivers, cannot boast of its communications by water. The river Larke has been rendered navigable to within a mile of the town; but it should have been brought into the place, which the corporation did not seem to approve of. Another project was for forming a second navigable canal from Bury to Manningtree, in Essex; a tunnel of two miles would have been wanting, and not more than 70,000*l.* to defray the whole expense. This undertaking was frustrated by the proprietors of the Larke navigation, whose interest it is acknowledged would have been materially affected.

Bury, it has been said, claims with an equal, if not in a superior degree, the honour of that celebrated charter by which the rights and liberties of Englishmen are secured, namely, *Magna Charta*. The real foundation of this charter is said to have been a prior one of Henry I. A copy of it having fallen into the hands of Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, was by him communicated to the principal nobles of the kingdom, and a meeting of them convened at Bury to deliberate on the subject. Upon this occasion each

person went to the high altar of St. Edmund, and there swore that if the king should refuse to abolish the arbitrary Norman laws, and to restore those of Edward the Confessor, they would make war upon him till he complied. The king, on his return from Poitou, in the year 1214, met his barons at Bury, and with the utmost solemnity confirmed this celebrated deed; binding himself by a public oath to regulate his conduct in strict conformity with the grand principles which it established.

Henry III. visited Bury several times, and in the year 1272 held a parliament here; after which he proceeded to Norwich, to punish the authors of a violent insurrection against the prior and monks of that city. Having accomplished the object of his journey, he returned to Bury, where he was seized with the disorder which soon after terminated his earthly reign.

In the year 1296 Edward I. held a parliament in this town for the purpose of demanding an aid of his clergy and people. The former, encouraged by a papal bull in their favour, refused to contribute any thing; and continuing to adhere pertinaciously to this determination, the king seized all the revenues of the abbey church, and confiscated the goods of the abbot and convent, together with all their manors, and the borough of Bury. After his retaining these possessions nearly two years, the clergy found no relief but in complete submission, and were obliged to grant the king a subsidy of one-fifteenth, or, according to some accounts, one-tenth of their goods and rents.

In the reign of Edward II. his queen being dissatisfied with the conduct of the two Spencers, the favourites of that weak monarch, she obtained the as-

sistance of the Prince of Hainault, and landed with a force of 2700 men, provided by him, at Orwell haven. She afterwards marched to Bury, and continued there some time to refresh her troops, and collect her adherents. The deposition of her misguided husband, and its unhappy results to him in particular, are well known.

During the reign of Richard II. Bury experienced the mischievous effects of the spirit of rebellion in an infuriated mob, which then pervaded many parts of the kingdom. In 1381, soon after the insurrection of the Kentish men under *Wat Tyler*, the people of Norfolk and Suffolk rose in great numbers under the conduct of *Jack Straw*, and committed numerous acts of outrage and wanton depredation. Proceeding in a body of not less than 50,000 to Cavendish, they there plundered and burned the house of Sir John de Cavendish, the lord chief justice, whom they seized and carried to Bury; here they struck off his head, and placed it on the pillory. They then attacked the monastery, when Sir John Cambridge, the prior, attempting to escape by flight, was taken and executed near Mildenhall, and his head was set up near that of the lord chief justice. Sir John Lakenhythe, the keeper of the barony, shared the same fate. The insurgents then plundered the abbey of Bury, carrying off jewels to a considerable amount, and doing much mischief to the structure. Their career was, however, soon stopped by Henry Spencer, called the martial Bishop of Norwich, who meeting them at Barton Mills with a very inferior force, compelled them to return to their homes. This prelate was bred to the profession of arms, and highly distinguished himself in Italy, in the wars of

Pope Adrian against the Duke of Milan. This pope, who was a native of England, to reward his services, conferred on him the bishopric of Norwich in the year 1370.

In 1433, Henry VI. then only twelve years old, kept his Christmas at the monastery of Bury, and remained there till the St. George's day following. In 1446, a parliament was held in this town, at which that monarch presided in person. This parliament was convened under the influence of Cardinal Beaufort, the inveterate enemy of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, the king's uncle, and the popular and beloved regent of England. Hume observes, that this parliament was not assembled at London, which was supposed to be too well affected to the duke; but at St. Edmund's Bury, where his enemies expected him to be entirely at their mercy. Their intrigues were but too successful; he was arrested on the second day of the sessions, all his servants taken from him, and his retinue sent to different prisons. Preparations were made for bringing him to a public trial; but his enemies, dreading the effects of the innocence and virtues of the *good duke*, as he was emphatically called, had recourse to a more certain method of ridding themselves of him than by a fair and open trial. Next morning, after his apprehension, he was found lifeless in his bed; and though an apoplexy was said to have been the cause of his death, yet all impartial persons ascribe it to the violence used by his enemies. Pitts relates that he was smothered with bolsters; and, according to local tradition, this atrocious deed was perpetrated by the Marquis of Suffolk, William de la Pole, in an apartment belonging to St. Saviour's Hospital, then an appendage

to the monastery. The duke's body was conveyed to St. Alban's, and there interred.

In 1526, an alarming insurrection of the people of Lavenham, Hadleigh, Sudbury, and the adjacent country, was quelled by the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk, who met for that purpose at Bury. Here many of the ringleaders were afterwards brought, and appeared before those noblemen in their shirts, and with halters round their necks; and in this state they received the royal pardon.

On the death of Edward VI. in 1553, John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, having persuaded Lady Jane Grey to be declared heir to the crown, to the exclusion of the Princesses Mary and Elizabeth, daughters of Henry VIII. he marched with an army into Suffolk to suppress any attempt that might be made to oppose his plans, and made Bury his place of rendezvous. Here he waited for reinforcements; but Mary being proclaimed queen by the council, she ordered the duke to return to Cambridge. On the way to this place he was deserted by most of his men, and in a very short period this ill-judged enterprise terminated in his death upon the scaffold.

Under the fanatical reign of Mary, Bury was the theatre of some of those horrible scenes that disgraced several other parts of the kingdom. On the 2d of August, 1555, James Abbes was burned here as a heretic: Roger Clarke, of Mendlesham, in 1556; and Roger Bernard, Adam Forster, and Robert Lawson, on the 30th of June the same year. John Cooke, Robert Miles, Alexander Lane, and James Ashley, suffered for the same cause but a short time before the queen's last illness; and Philip Humphrey, and

John and Henry David, brothers, were brought to the stake only a fortnight preceding Mary's death.

During the reign of James I. Bury was visited by a most destructive calamity. Stow relates, that "in the year 1608, April 11, being Monday, the quarter sessions was held at St. Edmund's Bury, and by negligence, an out malt-house was set on fire; from whence in a most strange and sudden manner, through fierce winds, the fire came to the farthest end of the town, and as it went, left some streets and houses safe and untouched. The flame flew clean over many houses, and did great spoil to many fair buildings farthest off; and ceased not till it had consumed 160 dwelling houses, besides others; and in damage of wares and household stuff to the full value of 60,000 pounds." To this accident, however terrible and distressful in itself, the present beauty and regularity of the streets of Bury are probably owing. King James, who was a great benefactor to the town, contributed large quantities of timber towards rebuilding the houses destroyed by this fire.

The reign of Charles I. was distinguished by a visitation still more dreadful than the preceding, for in 1636, the plague is said to have raged here with such violence, and so depopulated the town, that the grass grew in some of the streets. Four hundred families lay sick at one time, and were maintained at the public charge, which amounted to 200*l.* a week.

But the results of the weakness and superstitious credulity of James I. were yet to be felt at Bury and many other places. A persecution was absolutely raised here against the imaginary crime of witchcraft. To the disgrace of the annals of the country, in 1644,

one Matthew Hopkins, of Manningtree, in Essex, who styled himself *witch-finder general,* and had 20*s.* allowed him for every town he visited, was, with some others, *commissioned by parliament* to perform a circuit for the discovery of witches, during this and the two following years. Thus authorised, they went from place to place, through many parts of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Huntingdonshire; but what appears still more astonishing, they caused 16 persons to be hanged at Yarmouth, 40 at Bury, and others in different parts of the county, to the amount of 60 persons. Butler, in his Hudibras, alludes to this when he makes his hero say,

> " Has not this present parliament
> A ledger to the devil sent,
> Fully empower'd to treat about
> Finding revolted witches out?
> And has not he within one year
> Hang'd threescore of them in a shire?"

A Mr. Lowes, an innocent and aged clergyman, vicar of Brandeston, was among the victims sacrificed by this impostor and his associates. A cooper and his wife, and fifteen other women, were by the same influence all condemned and executed at one time at Bury.

Besides the arts used by Hopkins to extort confession from suspected persons, he had recourse to *swimming them;* which was done by tying their thumbs and great toes together, previously to throwing them into the water: if they sunk it was a proof of their innocence, but if they floated they were guilty. This method he pursued till some gentlemen, indignant at his barbarity, tied his own thumbs and toes, as he

had been accustomed to tie those of other persons; and when put into the water, he himself swam, as many others had done before him. By this expedient the country was cleared of him. Hudibras alludes to this when, speaking of Hopkins, he says—

> "Who after proved himself a witch,
> And made a rod for his own breech."

About the year 1640, a more ludicrous circumstance took place in Bury, which is also adverted to by Butler. This was a castigation which an unfortunate nobleman received from his more masculine spouse for having shewn an inclination to forsake Cromwell's party, on whose side he had declared himself. This treatment, it is said, made him so sensible of his fault, that he humbly asked pardon, and promised better behaviour in future. For this salutary exertion of her influence, the lady had thanks given her in open court.

To the disgrace of the age, and that of some of the characters implicated in the transaction, Bury witnessed another execution for witchcraft. This occurred on the 17th of March, 1664, when two poor widows, whose only guilt probably consisted either in the deformity of their bodies, or the weakness of their intellects, were tried before that learned and upright judge, Sir Matthew Hale, and sentenced to death. This extraordinary trial was published as an appeal to the world, by Sir Matthew, who, so far from being satisfied with the evidence, was very doubtful of it, and proceeded with such extreme caution, that he forbore to sum it up, leaving the matter to the jury,

with a prayer to God to direct their hearts in so important an affair.

Leaving Bury St. Edmund's, at a small distance on the right of our road, is *Hardwick House,* inhabited by the Rev. T. G. Cullum; his father Sir T. Cullum, bart. who owns the seat, resides in Bury. This house is situated upon the line that divides the open and the woodland country, and commands a pleasing view of Bury and its vicinity, being considerably higher than that town. This estate is said to have been given to the abbey of Bury by King Stephen, and according to tradition it was the abbot's dairy, and the principal mansion was his occasional retreat; however, no part of the present building is of any great age excepting a spacious chimney now under ground. In the year 1610 it was purchased by Sir Robert Drury, and annexed for ever to the manor of Hawsted.

Hardwick Heath has the reputation of feeding some of the finest flocks of sheep in the county. They are horned, and have black faces and legs, and these are said to have come from one of the three flocks in the environs of Bury, that formerly belonged to the abbot. Sir Robert Drury, who died in 1615, founded an almshouse at Hardwick for six poor unmarried women, with a yearly revenue of five pounds each; two of them to be taken from the town of Bury, one from Hawsted, one from Whepsted, one from Brockley, and one alternately from Chedburgh and Reed.

Ickworth lies at about two miles distance from this place, and is distinguished by the celebrated seat of the Earl of Bristol, which formerly belonged to the abbot of Bury. The whole parish has since been converted into a park, in which stands the noble man-

sion of the Herveys, who acquired this estate by marriage with the ancient family of the Drurys. John Hervey was created a peer in 1703, by Queen Anne, by the title of Baron Hervey of Ickworth, and in 1714 was invested by George I. with the more honourable title of Earl of Bristol. Frederic William, who succeeded his father in 1803, is the fifth earl. Ickworth Park is 11 miles in circumference, and contains 1800 acres. The ancient mansion is not remarkable, but the new building was planned upon a very extensive scale by the late earl, who was also bishop of Derry, for the purpose of making it the receptacle of the various works of art which he had collected during a long residence in Italy. It was intended to be composed of a circular building in the centre, connected with the wings by a colonnade on each side. The accomplishment of this plan was frustrated by the circumstance of the earl's collection falling into the hands of the French, in 1798, when his lordship was also confined in the castle of Milan by the republicans. For reasons that are perhaps only known to few, this conduct of the French, which would have hastened the departure of any other person from Italy, seemed to have determined him to remain there till his death in 1803. With a caprice said to have been common to several members of his family, he willed all his disposable property to strangers; including the collections he had made during the latter years of his life. As several obstacles prevented his successor from completing his father's plan, he had at one time serious thoughts of taking down the shell of this new building and selling the materials; but as these would not have reimbursed the expense of the

undertaking, it was abandoned, and it has since become a question whether the hand of time will not be left to reduce this building to ruin, which would require an immense sum to complete from its present state. This edifice, which has a southern aspect, and stands a little to the west of the old mansion, is built of what is denominated Roman brick. It was begun about the year 1795. The centre, which is nearly circular, is 140 feet high; the cupola that crowns it is 90 feet in its largest diameter, and 80 in the smallest. It is embellished with a series of Ionic columns between the windows of the lower apartments, and Corinthian between those of the principal floor. Over the windows of the latter are *basso relievos* from subjects in the Iliad of Homer. Above the entrance, Alexander is seen presenting his father the celebrated horse Bucephalus, which could not be managed by any one but himself, and on each side is a scene from the Olympic games. These have been covered with boards to protect them from the weather, and wanton injury, so frequent in this country. The *basso relievos* of the first story consist of the following subjects from the Odyssey:—Penelope weaving, Mentor and Telemachus proceeding in quest of Ulysses, the sacrifice, Penelope dreaming of her husband's return, Mercury persuading Calypso to release Ulysses, Ulysses saved from the wreck by Leucothoe, the Harpies, Penelope carrying the bow of Ulysses to the suitors, the hero destroying them, Penelope recognizing her husband, Mercury conducting the ghosts of the suitors to Styx, Ulysses concluding a treaty with the chiefs of Ithaca. The interior of this neglected edifice exhibits a mere shell, with a kind of open wooden staircase to ascend the

roof and take a view of the adjacent country. The cupola is crowned with a circular railing, within which the chimnies rise in a single stack, in such a manner as not to be visible on the outside of the building. The intended drawing and dining room, the only apartments bounded by an interior wall, are each 40 feet in length, but from the nature of the building, of unequal breadth. The wings, and the galleries connecting them with the edifice in the centre, have been run up to the height of only three or four feet. The left wing was designed for an assembly room, and that on the right to contain a gallery of statues on the ground floor, and of pictures above; and in both provision had been made for a circular reservoir of water. The length of the whole building, from each extremity, was to have been 600 feet, and that of each colonnade and wing 60 yards. The designs for this edifice were furnished by Italian artists, and so much of the building as has been erected was under the direction of Mr. Sandys. Two brothers, Italians, named Carvalho, executed the sculpture, modelled after the celebrated designs of Mr. Flaxman. The whole of the expense has not exceeded 40,000*l.* and the natural reflection of every foreigner upon this edifice must be, that nothing but a want of taste or a want of opulence has prevented its completion.

Returning towards the high road, we cross HORNINGSHEATH, commonly called Horringer: this formerly had two parish churches, distinguished by the names of *Magna* and *Parva*, great and small; but since the parishes were consolidated in 1548, the latter has been totally demolished. As both parishes once belonged to the abbot of Bury, *Little Horningsheath Hall* is said to have been one of his pleasure houses, where

above a century after the dissolution, his arms, together with those of Edward the Confessor, were to be seen, carved and painted in the grand chamber.

Horsecroft is a hamlet to Horringer, in which the very ancient family of the Lucases resided.

At a small distance between us and the high road from Bury, we arrive at Hawstead, in Domesday-book Halsted, situated between three and four miles of Bury. The bounds of this parish pass through the north and south doors of the church of the adjacent village of Nowton, so that the perambulating cavalcade proceeds through that edifice in its annual course to mark the parochial limits. At a small distance from this spot, some years since stood what was called "the gospel oak," or a majestic tree under which the clergyman used to stop in these perambulations, and repeat some prayer proper for the occasion. During the reign of William the Conqueror, it appears that some church stood at Hawsted, though of the period in which the present structure was raised there is no account; its architecture, however, appears to be that of the 16th century. It is constructed of freestone and flints, broken into smooth faces, which by the contrast of their colours produce a very good effect. The porches, buttresses, and embattled parapets, are in general the most laboured parts, not only being mixed with the free stone, but beautifully inlaid with a variety of patterns. Of this inlaying, the lower parts of the steeple exhibit specimens of considerable elegance, in mullets, quatrefoils, interlaced triangles, &c. The walls for about two feet above the ground are of free stone, and project all round in the manner of a buttress, like those of Windsor castle, a circumstance unusual in

a country church. The steeple is square, and 63 feet high. The chancel is of a different age and inferior style, its walls being composed of rough flints plastered over. Till the year 1780 the roof of this church was of thatch, but it was then exchanged for tiles. The body or nave is only 58 feet long, 29 wide, and about 36 to the highest point of the roof, the braces and principals of which are carved, and of the latter, every other is supported by an angel. These angels, however, have been deprived of their heads and wings, and this mutilation was probably performed by Mr. William Dowsing's order. From Stratford, where he lived, he made the circuit of the county for the purpose of effecting this kind of reformation, in the years 1643 and 1644, destroying such images and inscriptions as were deemed superstitious, to the extreme regret of the antiquary and lover of the arts. On the upper edge of the font are still to be seen the remains of the fastenings by which the cover was formerly locked down for fear of sorcery! The chancel is thirty-three feet and a half by eighteen, and twenty-four feet high. The ceiling is covered and plastered, and divided into compartments by mouldings of wood, adorned with antique heads and foliage. All the windows have been handsomely painted: several coats of arms of the Drurys and Cloptons still remain, as also some headless figures of saints and angels. The church and chancel are divided by a wooden screen of gothic work; and on this screen, denominated the rood loft, still hangs a relic of Roman Catholic times; this is one of the small bells supposed to have been rung at particular parts of divine service, as at the consecration and elevation of the host, whence these

were called *sacring*, or consecrating bells. These bells are now very rarely seen. In the steeple are three bells, and on the smallest of them this monkish inscription, in the old English character;—

Eternis annis, resonet campana Joannis.

Within an arched recess in the middle of the north wall of the chancel, and nearly level with the pavement, lies a cross-legged figure of stone, supposed to represent one of the family of Fitz Eustace, lords of the place in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward III. This monument is no doubt coeval with the chancel, and is very handsome, being elegantly sculptured with foliage, and has a gothic turret rising from the head and feet, connected by a basement at the top. Here is also a flat slab of Sussex marble, seven feet long, on which not the least vestige of an inscription remains. Sir John Cullum supposes this to have been for an ecclesiastic, and observes that stones of this shape were frequently the lids of coffins, sunk no lower than their own depth in the earth.

On the top of an altar monument of Sussex marble, in the south-east corner of the church, is the portrait of a knight, in brass, represented in armour, between his two wives. His hair is clipped short, his whiskers and parted beard are long; his armour is flourished with some different metal, with large protuberances at the shoulders; at his neck and wrists are similar narrow ruffs or ruffles, and his toes are very broad. The ladies are habited both alike, though one of them, whose eyes are closed, died many years before her husband: the eyes of the other are represented as

being open, for the purpose of shewing that she survived him. In the chancel is a fine marble bust of Sir William Drury. He was elected one of the knights of the shire in 1585; was killed in a duel in France, but his corpse was brought to England, and interred here. The south-east corner of this chancel contains the mural monument to the memory of the lady of whom Dr. Donne observed,—

> —— —— Her pure and eloquent blood
> Spoke in her cheeks, and so distinctly wrought,
> That one might almost say her body thought.

This figure of a young female is represented as large as life, lying upon a basement three feet high, with her head reclining on her left hand: her mantle is drawn close about her neck, and edged with a small ruff; her hair is dressed in many small and short curls, without a cap or any other covering. Above is an emblematical female personage, surrounded with a glory, and scattering flowers on the figure below: a greyhound sits on each side of the basement, the cognizance of the family. The long Latin inscription upon a black marble tablet is supposed to have been written by Dr. Donne. The lady whom it celebrates was the younger and only surviving daughter of Sir Robert Drury, who died in 1610, at the age of 15. Opposite to her monument is that of her father, Sir Robert Drury, consisting of a basement, on which is a sarcophagus of black marble, beneath a double arch supported by Corinthian pillars. Over this, in a marble frame, is a most spirited bust, in armour, as large as life, representing Sir Robert. The Latin epitaph recording his merits is ascribed to Dr. Donne,

who was liberally patronized by him, and also had apartments allowed him in Sir Robert's mansion, near Drury-lane, London. On two small pannels in the basement are inscriptions in Latin and English, on Dorothy, another daughter of Sir Robert, who died at the age of four years. The latter is as follows:

She little, promis'd much,
Too soon untide;
She only dreamt she liv'd,
And then she dy'de.

Another large mural monument contiguous to that of Elizabeth Drury, represents a sarcophagus on a basement, with a lofty entablature above it, supported by two square fluted pillars of the Ionic order, and surmounted by a large escutcheon of the arms and crest. This, according to a tablet over the sarcophagus, was erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Cullum, bart. The whole is made of a hard white plaster, painted of a dark grey colour, and ornamented with gilding and flowers. It is the work of an Italian, for by the accounts of the steward of Hawsted Hall, three sums of *5l.* were advanced to the Italian on account of this monument. With other monuments of the Cullum family in this church, there is one to the memory of Anne, daughter of John, Lord Berkeley, of Stratton, and wife of Sir Dudley Cullum, bart. who died in 1709, in her 44th year.

Hawsted House, repaired or rebuilt by Sir William Drury, in Queen Elizabeth's reign, is situated on an eminence, and the whole formed a quadrangle of 202 feet by 211 within. Part of it has been taken down, though not from decay. The walls were chiefly con-

structed of timber and plaster; the latter in the front being thickly studded with fragments of glass, which made a brilliant appearance, not only in the sunshine, but by moonlight. The house itself contains nothing very remarkable. The quadrangle inclosed an area 58 feet square, and the whole was inclosed by a wide moat, surrounded by a terrace. Besides the apartments found in the houses of gentlemen of the present day, it had its smoking-room, still-room and chapel. Contiguous to one of the chambers was a wainscotted closet, about seven feet square, fitted up, as it is supposed, for the last Lady Drury. It was probably designed at first for an oratory; and as the pannels were painted with various sentences, emblems, and mottos, it was called the painted closet. These embellishments, said to have been well executed, were removed to a small apartment in Hardwick House, near Bury.

The arms of Drury, and those of Stafford, of Grafton, his lady's family, are still extant in stone on the porches. Between these porches stands a stone figure of Hercules, holding in one hand a club across his shoulder, and resting the other on one hip. This figure formerly discharged, by the natural passage, a continual stream of water, into a carved stone bason, supplied by leaden pipes from a pond at the distance of nearly half a mile. "Modern times," Sir John Cullum observed, "would scarcely devise such a piece of sculpture as an amusing spectacle for a virgin princess," but the figure has been long since rendered less offensive to the eye of delicacy. From the date, preserved upon the pedestal, this figure was one of the embellishments bestowed upon this place against the visit by which it was honoured by Queen Elizabeth in her progress in 1578. She rode in the

morning from Sir William Cordell's at Melford, and dined with one of the Drurys at Lawshall Hall, about five miles from Hawsted. In the evening she came to Hawsted, and the apartment she occupied retained her name ever after. Tradition reports that she dropped a silver handled fan into the moat. On this occasion it is probable that she bestowed the honour of knighthood on the owner of this mansion.

Another good mansion in this parish is *Hawsted Farm*, late the residence of C. Metcalf, esq. It was almost rebuilt by that gentleman, in 1783, of the white brick made at Woolpit.

Nearly adjoining to Hawsted is WHEPSTEAD. This village contains *Whepstead Hall*, the property of Major General Hammond. It is an old irregular building, after the manner of many of the second-rate mansions of this county; but has been repaired and modernized by one of its recent possessors. The spire upon this church steeple was blown down in the hurricane that occurred at the death of Oliver Cromwell. A similar accident attended the steeple of Dalham, in the hundred of Risbridge.

The manor of Whepstead formed part of the possessions of the abbey of Bury, and after the dissolution was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir William Drury. After passing through many hands it came into the possession of Major General Hammond.

Leaving Hawsted Place we pass the village of Newton, and proceeding over Low Green, join the main road just above *Rushbrook Hall*. The manor of Rushbrook, from which the hall takes its name, has been rendered remarkable since the dissolution by the residence of the Jermyns, a family which has produced

many persons of considerable eminence. Sir Thomas Jermyn was Privy Counsellor and Comptroller of the Household to Charles I.; and his second son, Henry, was Master of the Horse and Chamberlain to the Queen; his exertions during the civil war in behalf of the king were rewarded with a peerage. He was also employed by Charles II. during his exile on the continent, in various missions. The dignity conferred on him in reward of his faithful services was that of the Earl of St. Albans, and Lord Chamberlain of the King's household. Dying without issue, and the title of his earldom becoming extinct, that of Lord Jermyn descended to Thomas, the eldest son of his brother. Henry, his second son, was created Baron of Dover, by James II. but died in 1708, without issue. From the Jermyns this estate came into the possession of the family of the Davers, and upon the death of Sir Charles Davers, in 1806, devolved to Robert Rushbrook, esq. who married the natural daughter of Sir Charles, and whose family had prior possession of the place some centuries since, and now reside there. The Hall, formerly moated round, is a noble spacious mansion, with a plain front to the north, and two wings running to the south, which forms three sides of a square. The park is also extensive.

When Queen Elizabeth visited Rushbrook Hall, in 1571, Sir Robert Jermyn of this place feasted the French embassadors two several times, with which charges and courtesy it is said they were wonderfully satisfied. The church contains several monuments to the memory of the Jermyns. In the hall is a good portrait of Edmund Jermyn, esq. who gave an annuity of 40*l.* per annum to the poor at Bury, out of his ma-

nor at Torkesey, in Lincolnshire. He is represented in a strait waisted doublet, and a round bonnet adorned with flowers and jewels, and the painting is dated A. D. 1567, in the fifteenth year of his age.

Welnetham is a place of considerable antiquity, as Camden mentions that great quantities of potsherds and platters of Roman manufacture have been found here, some of which had inscriptions; also ashes, bones of sheep and oxen, many horns, a sacrificing knife, urns and other relics. Sir Richard Gipps, who resided in the manor-house in 1701, met with the head of a Roman spear, several vessels, coins, bricks, pateras, &c. This gentleman died here in 1708, and was buried in the church without any inscription.

Proceeding from Welnetham, at about a mile distance on our road, is Bradfield Combust, called also *Brent* or *Burnt Bradfield*, the most remarkable of the places of that name in this part of Suffolk, having received its surname from the destruction of Bradfield Hall in the year 1327, when it belonged to the convent of Bury. At this time, the conduct of the abbot having enraged the townsmen, headed by their alderman and others, they broke open and plundered the abbey, and completely burnt Bradfield Hall, which at that time belonged to the abbey, and was situated five miles south of that edifice.

Bradfield Combust contains the manor and seat of the celebrated Arthur Young, to whose discoveries and improvements in the art of agriculture the public are so much indebted. The manor and estate of this gentleman was purchased by one of his ancestors in the year 1620, of Sir Thomas Jermyn, of Rushbrook. It stands upon a range of high land, which runs through

the whole county. Two small brooks rising in this parish take contrary directions; one passing to Bury, and proceeding to the sea at Lynn; the other running to Lavenham, and falling into the ocean at Harwich. Mr. Young's estate is beautifully wooded with many fine trees. In 1725, his father, the late Dr. Young, formed an avenue of limes, which have been remarked as extremely beautiful; but his son has planted above 40,000 larch and other trees, as nurses to oaks sown 30 years ago, so that his estate is likely to continue well wooded for many years to come. In some of his publications Mr. Young has explained the advantages which result from these plantations, and especially from the more beautiful trees of an estate. Among his decorations of this old mansion, which contains a copious and valuable library, are the shrubberies and the water. This gentleman has since been taken out of active life by a state of blindness, nevertheless with the aid of an amanuensis he has devoted his time to the illustration of his favourite pursuit, with the unimpaired faculties of a vigorous mind.

Nearly a mile from this place, and about the same distance from each other, are BRADFIELD ST. GEORGE and BRADFIELD ST. CLARE. The church of the former stands upon such an elevated situation, that though the steeple is only 66 feet high, 60 churches may be seen in the circumjacent country, which embraces part of Essex, Norfolk, and Cambridgeshire.

About a mile from Bradfield Combust, on the other side of the road, is the little village called STANNINGFIELD, five miles and a quarter from Bury.

Returning to the high road, we pass *Coldham Hall*, in the parish of Stanningfield, about a mile from Brad-

field, which is the seat of Robert Gage Rookwood, esq.

On our left we perceive the house called *Pepper*, and a little beyond is *Cockfield*. Here are several manors which probably belonged to the abbey of Bury St. Edmund's; though Sir William Spring died seized of the former, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. *Earl's Hall* here is so called from the De Veres, Earls of Oxford; as Robert de Vere was possessed of it in the 24th year of Edward I. These honours and estates were lost by John, Earl of Oxford, under Edward IV. but restored by Henry VII. and enjoyed till the death of Aubrey de Vere, the last earl of that family. A handsome mansion in this parish was the seat of the Herveys in 1764.

At about the same distance, but on the opposite side of the road, and nearly six miles from Bury, is LAWSHALL. This lordship was given by Alfwinus, the son of Bricius, to the abbey of Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire, in the year 1022. At the dissolution it was granted to John Rither, esq. in the 37th year of Henry VIII.

Proceeding still to the right, we pass *Herbert's Green*, and at about three miles from the high road arrive at BROCKLEY: this village is six miles from Lavenham; but possesses nothing particularly interesting.

SOMERTON, about a mile distant, was in the lordship of Thomas de Burgh in the year 1274; it is about eight miles and a half from Bury.

Returning towards the high road, we pass HARTEST, which belonged to the convent of Ely in King Edward the Confessor's time, but was afterwards appropriated

to the bishopric, and alienated from it in the fourth year of Queen Elizabeth.

To the right we see BOXSTEAD, which in the reign of Edward I. was granted to Robert Harleston, who being attainted by the first parliament of Edward IV. it came with other manors to Richard, Duke of Gloucester. It was afterwards the seat of the Poleys.

About a mile and a half before we rejoin the high road, we pass the village of SHIMPLING; in the Conqueror's time the lordship of Odo de Campania. It afterwards descended to the Lords Fitzwalter. Here is *Chadacre* or *Shadacre Hall*, the seat of the Fiskes.

STANSTEAD, on a line with this place, is about six miles and a half from Sudbury, but contains nothing remarkable.

ALPHETON is situated seven miles and a quarter on this side Sudbury, on the high road from Bury; this was formerly the lordship of John de Welnetham, who, in the reign of Edward III., left a daughter his heir. On the left of our road, at about three miles distant, but rather nearer to Bury, is THORP MORIEUX; this was anciently the lordship and demesne of Hugh de Morieux, but afterwards came to the Risbys.

A good road from Alpheton leads to LAVENHAM, ten miles from Bury, and seven from Sudbury. This place is pleasantly and healthfully situated in a valley nearly surrounded by hills, except on the south, and on a branch of the river Brit, from whence the town has a gradual ascent. It consists of nine small divisions, or streets; but the old houses are in general ill built; though the market-place is spacious, and has a stone cross in the centre. Lavenham was once famous for

its manufacture of blue cloths, afterwards yarn from wool was principally made here, and says and calimancoes, till the fashion arose among the ladies of wearing Spanish leather for their shoes. The market day used to be on Tuesday, but this has long been disused; however, there are two annual fairs, one for butter and cheese, which begins October 10, and holds four days; the other for horses, on Shrove Tuesday. This town contains 308 houses, and 1,711 inhabitants. It is governed by six capital burgesses, who are chosen for life, and appoint the inferior officers. Here is a free school, and a Bridewell, part of which is appropriated to the purposes of a workhouse.

The church standing at one end of the town, is accounted one of the most beautiful fabrics of its kind in the county. It is chiefly built of freestone, the rest being of curious flint work; its total height is 156 feet, and its breadth 68. The steeple, admirable both for its strength and beauty, is 141 feet high, and 42 in diameter, and contains six bells.

The arms of the De Veres and the Springs, the latter opulent clothiers in this town, being put up in many parts of the church, it has been inferred that they were the principal founders. Of the Springs there is no other information than "that in the time of one Thomas Spring, a rich clothier, this church was old and decayed, whereupon he gave 200*l.* towards the repairs, and his posterity joining with the Earls of Oxford, the posterity of his daughter finished it." According to Weever, Thomas Spring, the rich clothier, died in 1510, and was buried under a monument on the north side of the chancel; but the Latin inscriptions existing

in this church make it evident that Weever's account is erroneous, in regard to the time when the chapel, where these inscriptions appear, was erected; and of the monument which he mentions not the smallest traces are to be found, though in the vestry there is an old tomb, by which it appears that Thomas Spring was the builder of this part; and that he, in conjunction with some of the Earls of Oxford, who were then lords of the manor of Lavenham, began to erect this fine structure, and that it was finished by their descendants. This seems the more probable from the remains of the different quarterings of the arms upon the building. Upon the steeple are the arms of De Vere quartered with those of Nevil, Howard, Montague, Monthermer, Earl of Gloucester, with the episcopal arms of Canterbury and London; and on the top of it, 26 coats with the arms of the Springs only.

The church porch is an elegant piece of architecture, very highly enriched, and in it are six shields, all within garters, with the arms of the De Veres impaled and quartered with those of many of the most noble families in the kingdom. They are adorned with boars, the supporters of the arms of the De Veres, and upon one of them are the letters I O, probably intended for the initials of John, the fourteenth Earl of Oxford, who was a knight of the garter, and married the daughter of Thomas Howard, Duke of Norfolk, who died in 1529. He is conjectured to have erected this porch. In the interior, the roof is admirably carved, and the two pews belonging to the Earls of Oxford and the Springs, though much decayed, are specimens of highly finished pieces of gothic work in wood. The windows are numerous, and some of them are embellished with

painted glass, representing the arms of the De Veres and others.

A monument is erected to the memory of the Rev. Henry Copinger, rector of this church, on the left hand side of the altar. In an arched recess between two Corinthian columns, in alto relievo, are represented the reverend divine and his wife, both in black, with white ruffs round their necks, opposite each other, and in the attitude of prayer. Upon a pedestal on each side stands an angel at full length, with a scroll in his hand. One of them bears these words, *Dilecti accipite coronam vitæ;* and on the other, *Mortui venite ad Judicium.* Under the principal figures are three compartments. In the middle are seen their children, all habited in black, and kneeling before an altar, viz. eight sons, two and two on one side, and four daughters singly on the other. The first of the former is represented cross gartered down the leg, as described by Shakspeare in the fifth act of his Twelfth Night.

In the pannel on the left is a long Latin inscription, which is partly the same as the following, in English, on the right hand.

"This monument was erected at the sole cost of Mrs. Anne Copinger, in memory of her dear husband, the reverend, learned, and godly divine, Mr. Henry Copinger (fourth son of Henry Copinger of Buxhall, in this countie, by Agnes his wife, daughter of Sir Thomas Jermine of Rushbrook Hall, knt.) the painful and vigilant rector of this church, by the space of 45 years; prebendarie of the metropolitane church of St. Peter, in Yorke; lord of the town, and patron of the church of Buxhall aforesaide, who marryed Anne, daughter of Henry Fisher, of Linne, in Norfolk, gent. By her he

had eight sonnes and four daughters, and after he had lived godly 72 yeares, dyed peaceably 21st Dec. Anno 1622."

Underneath the whole is this inscription—*Justorum memoria benedicetur*, " may the memory of the just be blessed."

Of this Mr. Copinger, Fuller relates, that Dr. Reynolds, who held the living of Lavenham, having gone over to the church of Rome, the Earl of Oxford, the patron, presented Mr. Copinger, but on condition that he should pay no tithes for his park, which comprehended nearly half the land in the parish. Mr. Copinger told his lordship that he would rather return the presentation, than by such a sinful gratitude betray the rights of the church; which answer had such weight with the earl, that he replied, " I scorn that my estate should swell with church goods." His heir, however, actuated by sentiments less liberal, contested the rector's right to the tithes, and it cost Mr. Copinger 1600*l.* to recover that right, and leave it in the quiet possession of his successors.

In the north aisle of Lavenham church is a small mural monument, upon which a man and woman, engraved on brass, are represented kneeling before a table, and three sons and three daughters behind them. A label proceeds from the mouth of the man, on which are these words: *In manus tuas d'ne commendo spiritum meum.* Underneath is this inscription, like that of the label, in the old English character.

Contynuall prayse these lynes in brasse,
Of Allayne Dyster here,
A clothier vertuous, while he was
In Lavenham many a yeare.

For as in lyefe he loved best
The poore to clothe and feede,
So withe the riche and all the rest
He neighbourlie agreed;
And did appoint before he dyed,
A speciall yearlie rent,
Which should be every Whitsontide
Amonge the poorest spente.
Et obiit Anno D'ni 1534.

Of this person's benefaction it seems no account whatever remains. A very old gravestone in the chancel, which formerly had a Saxon inscription, is now completely defaced. Kirby says that in the churchyard, on the tomb of one John Weles, a bachelor, who died in 1694, is this odd jingling epitaph.

Quod fuit esse quod est, quod non fuit esse quod esse,
Esse quod est non esse, quod est non est erit esse.

Lavenham may boast of several substantial charities. The inhabitants were many years since enabled to purchase an estate of 80*l.* per annum for repairing the almshouses, and supporting the poor placed in them. In 1696, Edward Colman, esq. of Furnival's Inn, bequeathed 200*l.* for the education of the children here, and such additions were made to this sum by the donations of others, as purchased a convenient dwelling-house and school-room, and an annuity of 30*l.* for a master. Mr. Coleman likewise left 200*l.* to be laid out in land, and the rent to be applied towards binding out one poor boy yearly from Milden, Brent Illeigh, or Lavenham. Lavenham was the birthplace of *Richard de Lanham*, a divine of considerable eminence and

great learning, who was beheaded with Archbishop Sudbury, by Wat Tyler's mob.

About a mile and a half to the north-east of Lavenham, is PRESTON. This village comprehends several manors; the first, the Priory, as belonging to that of the Holy Trinity in Ipswich; the next that of *Maisters*, with those of the Mortimers, the Swifts, and another near the church called *Preston Hall*, which belonged to the Earls of Oxford, till John, the 14th earl, dying without issue, about the 18th year of Henry VIII. it descended to his sister, married to Sir Anthony Wingfield, knt. in which family it continued three descents. In the reigns of James and Charles I. here lived Robert Rice, esq. an accomplished gentleman, and a great preserver of the antiquities of this county.

Much about the same distance from Lavenham as this place, but directly to the east, is BRENT ILLEIGH. This village and manor belonged to the ancestors of Sir Henry Shelton, who procured the grant of a market for it from Henry III., long since discontinued. His posterity flourished here for several centuries, but the property was afterwards sold to the family of Colman. It has since been the property of the family of Goate. Dr. Colman, of Trinity College, built a fine parochial library at the end of the chancel, and stocked it with books. Edward Colman, esq. erected and endowed a neat alms-house for six people.

MONKS ILLEIGH, still farther to the left, is so called from having formerly belonged to the monks of St. Peter, or rather of St. Augustine's, at Canterbury; to whom it was given with Hadleigh, by Brithnoth, Duke or Earl of Essex, before he marched to repel the incur-

sions of the Danes, and fell in the battle of Maldon in 991.

About a mile from Monks Illeigh is CHELSWORTH. On a rising ground near the church are the remains of the foundation of a stone building, which appears to have been very capacious, and surrounded by the river Brit. Near these remains is a field named the Park, and a small wood called Park Wood. The manor formerly belonged to the Howard family, and afterwards to the Veres, Earl of Oxford. In 1737 it became, by purchase, the property of Robert Pocklington, esq. who built a handsome seat, since occupied by Sir Roger Pocklington, bart.; it is now the property of Sir Robert Pocklington, K.M.T.

About a mile to the south-east is *Semere*, principally noted for its house of industry for the hundred of Cosford, which was incorporated in 1779. This structure was erected in the following year. The average number of paupers is 180, and their principal employment spinning yarn for Norwich. This lordship belonged to the abbot of Bury, and was appropriated to the use of the cellarer. Semere Lodge is the seat of —— Archer, esq.

About two miles to the right is Milden.

MILDEN, or Milding, was formerly the lordship and demesne of *Remigius de Milden*, who took his name from this place. Milden Hall was the seat of John Canham, esq.

In this parish *Wells Hall* formerly belonged to the family of the Shorelands.

Passing a village called *Lindsey*, we observe KERSEY, on a line with Semere: this place is memorable only for a priory of Benedictine monks, as some say; but rather

of Austin canons, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Anthony. It was granted by King Henry VI. to King's College in Cambridge. Here is a fair held yearly on Easter Tuesday. The large mansion called Sampson's Hall took its name from the Sampsons, who resided here, as did also Sir Thomas Thorowgood, knt. high sheriff for the county in 1764. This house has since been the property of the Rev. Chr. Pennant, lately deceased.

We shall now cross the river Breton to notice the ancient town of Hadleigh.

HADLEIGH, situated on the river, is a considerable place, and according to the last population returns, contains 509 houses, and 2592 inhabitants. The market is held on Mondays, and there are two annual fairs, one on the Tuesday in Whitsun week, and the other on the 10th of October. This town formerly enjoyed the privileges of a corporation, and was governed by a mayor, aldermen, and common council; but a *quo warranto* being brought against them, they surrendered their charter, and their deed of surrender being inrolled, and judgment entered against them upon record, they could not be reinstated by the proclamation of James II. in the year 1688, and no other has since been granted them. The woollen trade that once flourished in this town has long been reduced to the spinning of yarn for the manufactures of Norwich. The principal ornament of Hadleigh is its church, situated in the middle of the town, and is a handsome structure, with a good steeple and spire. Dr. Wilkins, one of the late rectors, was at the expense of a very fine altar-piece in the chancel; and both the church and parsonage-house were greatly

improved and beautified by the Rev. Dr. Tanner, his successor. The church of Hadleigh has been principally noted for having been the burial-place of *Guthrum* or *Gormo*, the Danish chieftain, who being defeated by King Alfred, consented to embrace Christianity, and had the government of the East Angles entrusted to him, which he administered 12 years, and dying in the year 889, was buried in this church; though it has been remarked that the tomb shewn as his does not bear the appearance of such antiquity. Mr. Gough observes, "there is only a long arch with a bouquet on its point in the south wall of a much later date." The strong gateway to the rectory-house was built by Dr. Pykenham, the chancellor of Norwich, who erected the archdeacon's house in Ipswich. This gate consists of two hexangular towers, and is entirely constructed of brick. Dr. Pykenham also founded 12 almshouses here in 1497 for decayed housekeepers, with a small chapel for their use.

Hadleigh is remarkable for the martyrdom of Dr. Rowland Taylor, who was rector of this church during the sanguinary persecution of Queen Mary, for his adherence to the doctrines of the reformation. Upon the spot in this parish upon which he was burnt, improperly called *Aldham Common*, a stone was erected with this inscription:

Anno 1555.

"Dr. Taylor for defending what was god
In this place shed his blod."

About a mile to the south of Hadleigh is LEYHAM. Here John de Leyham held the manor of Overbury

Hall of the Earl Marshal in the 18th year of Edward I. The manors and mansion here were purchased by the D'Oylys of the family of the Hodges.

Returning towards the high road we pass the villages of Edwardston, Great and Little Waldingfield, and Acton.

EDWARDSTON was once of considerable note, on account of the lords that lived here. In the Conqueror's time Hubert de Monte Canisio, or Montechensy, Guarin or Waryn, of this family, was so wealthy, that he was called the English Crœsus, and according to Camden died worth 200,000 marks. Here was formerly a religious house, a cell to the monastery of Abingdon, near Oxford; but about the year 1160, the monks were removed to the priory of Colne, in Essex.

WALDINGFIELD MAGNA, or Great Waldingfield, was formerly the lordship of James Butler, Earl of Wiltshire, and afterwards of the Earls of Essex. Sir John Carbonell had a manor here, and the advowson of the church, about the year 1300. The manor of Moreves has since belonged to the family of Keddington.

WALDINGFIELD PARVA, or Little Waldingfield, contains nothing remarkable.

Nearly adjoining to this place is situated *Holbrook Hall*, late the seat of Job Hanmer, esq. and two miles to the right is that of Michael Barton, esq.

ACTON, formerly called *Aketon*, stands on the west side of the road from Sudbury to Lavenham. In the ninth of Edward I. the manor of this parish belonged to Robert de Buers, but was afterwards given to Henry Lord Bourchier for his faithful services to the York family, by King Edward IV.

Acton Place was formerly the seat of the Daniels, but sold by them to Robert Jennens, esq. who began to rebuild this mansion, which though a fine structure, was never completely finished. His son, William Jennens, esq. died in 1791, at the age of 93, some say at 100, with the reputation of being at that time the richest subject in the kingdom. On his decease the fine tapestry was torn from the walls, and sold with the furniture and other moveables. This noble mansion, having since that time been inhabited only by an old man and a woman, presented a deplorable spectacle of desolation, and the approach to it could be traced only by the colour and height of the grass which had grown over the gravel. The interior still exhibited some vestiges of its former splendour. The hall is adorned with alto relievos; and the ceiling with the paintings from the heathen mythology. At each corner was also a figure of one of its fabled divinities. At the end, and on each side, were paintings of fruit and animals, by Snyders. Some circular recesses also contained six busts of admirable workmanship. In the pannels over the fireplaces were portraits of the late proprietor and his parents; and the library contained a beautiful fruit piece by Snyders. A curious specimen of female industry of former days was also exhibited here, in what was denominated the *point-room*, the whole of which was hung with needle work, in blue and white, the furniture of the bed and chairs being the same. The adjoining apartment was called the *silk room*, from the elegant painted silk with which it was furnished. Another curiosity exhibited here was a small bed, the furniture of which was said to have been lined with the shirts of King William III. who had been godfather

North East view of

LONG MELFORD CHURCH.

to one of the owners of this mansion. The offices, forming wings on each side of this house, gives the whole the appearance of grandeur. The garden fared worse than the building, having been ploughed up and cultivated as a field. This property, on the death of Mr. Jennens, descended to the Hon. Penn Asheton Curzon.

Having now rejoined the direct road, we proceed to Melford.

MELFORD, commonly called *Long Melford*, is a large and very pleasant village, situated upon the Stour, within three miles of Sudbury, and is generally esteemed one of the largest villages in England. Melford has an annual fair on Whit Tuesday, several good inns, upwards of 450 houses, and 2200 inhabitants. The church, standing upon a rising ground, at the north end of this village, is a beautiful specimen of the architecture of the 15th century, about 180 feet in length, exclusive of the school-house at the end. The small square tower is not so ancient as the body of the church, which contains the monuments of many individuals belonging to different families who formerly flourished here.

Upon an altar monument at the upper end of the north aisle, erected to the memory of William Clopton, esq. son of Sir Thomas Clopton, lies his figure in armour. He died in 1446. On the front of the monument is a brass plate with a Latin epitaph, in old English characters.

Under another altar monument of grey marble, within an arch on the north side of the communion-table, are interred John Clopton, son of the preceding, and his wife, Alice Darcy. At their heads are still

remaining their portraits, kneeling, painted small in fresco, with the arms of their families on their dress. He was sheriff of the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, in the 30th year of Henry VI. and not long before his death contributed to the repair, or perhaps to the rebuilding of the beautiful chapel at the east end of the church, now used for a school, as appears from the following inscription in old English characters on the battlements.

"Pray for the sowle of John Hill, and for the sowle of John Clopton, esquwyre, and pray for the sowle of Richard Loveday Boteler, with John Clopton, of whose godiss this chappel is embattylld, by his executors. Pray for the sowlis of William Clopton, esqywre, and Margery, his wifis, and for all their parentes and chyldren; and for the sowle of Alice Clopton, and for John Clopton, and for all his children, and for all the sowlis that the said John is bounde to pray for, which deed this chapel new repare. A° D'ni M° CCCC° LXXXXIII."

To the right of the altar is the splendid monument of Sir William Cordell. Three Corinthian columns support the canopy, under which the figure of the knight reclines in white marble. In the recesses at the back are four female figures, representing the cardinal virtues. A long inscription in Latin verse records the honours and character of Sir William, who was an eminent lawyer, Speaker of the House of Commons, a member of Queen Mary's Privy Council, Master of the Rolls, and the founder of the hospital at Melford.

On the outside of the pew belonging to the Martyns family are many grotesque heads, carved in oak; and

some ancient stones in the floor, at the east end of the church, are placed over the remains of several members of that family.

The font in this church has a cover curiously carved, with a pinnacle and a cross at the top; and on the spot whence it was removed to its present position is a raised stone of white marble, in the form of a lozenge, with a black cross upon it. The north window contains some painted glass with figures, and Latin inscriptions; but many of the panes, containing parts of them, have been broken, and common ones introduced to supply their place.

The *Hospital*, a plain brick building, inclosed with a wall, stands very nearly adjoining the churchyard. Over the entrance is inscribed, "This hospital was founded by Sir William Cordell, knt. 1573." It is endowed for a warden, 12 poor men, and two women, old and decayed housekeepers of Melford; and for want of persons of this description in Melford, they are to be taken from Shimpling in this hundred.

Melford Hall stands on the east side of the green, an old spacious brick building, in the style of the age of Elizabeth, with four small round towers in the front. Here had been one of the country seats or villas of the abbot of Bury, but after the dissolution of religious houses, this manor, together with the advowson of the church, was granted to Sir William Cordell, in the 37th of Henry VIII. Queen Mary, in the first year of her reign, to this grant, added the lands of the hospital of St. Saviour, without the north gate at Bury, which Sir William afterwards settled on his own hospital at Melford. Dying without issue, his estates devolved

on his sister, the wife of Richard Allington, esq., and by the marriage of their only child, Mary, were conveyed to Sir John Savage, whose son was raised to the peerage by the title of Viscount Colchester. John, his son, was advanced to the dignity of Earl Rivers. Melford Hall belonged to Mary, widow of the third earl, during the civil war in the reign of Charles I.; when, as Fuller informs us, it was the first fruits of plundering in England. The loss of the noble proprietor in plate, money, costly hangings, and other rich furniture here, and at her other seat at St. Osyth in Essex, is estimated by contemporary writers at the immense sum of 100,000*l*. All this time Melford Hall lay under a mortgage to Sir John Cordell, made to him by the first Earl Rivers. It was afterwards sold to Sir Robert Cordell, who being created a baronet in 1660, made this place his seat. On the failure of male issue in that family, the estate devolved to that of Firebrace. Melford Hall is now the seat of Sir William Parker, bart.

Kentwell Hall is an old mansion a little to the north of the church, and was formerly the residence of the Cloptons, who derived their name from a village in this county, from which it is probable they were detached very early, as there is no record of their having any possessions there: it is now the seat of Richard Moore, esq.

At the south end of the town is an old seat called *Melford Place*, which was for many years the mansion of the family of the Martyns: Roger Martyn, mercer, son of Lawrence Martyn of Melford, was lord mayor of London in 1567.

Many years since, several Roman urns were dug up here in a gravel pit; and in a farm yard on *Cranmer Green*, in this parish, is a petrifying spring.

Leaving the direct road, we shall turn to the right, and proceed to Clare: on our way we first arrive at GLEMSFORD, a very extensive parish; here is a yearly fair on the 24th of June. Some rents are paid out of this manor to the see of Ely, and the inhabitants are exempted from serving on juries elsewhere than at Ely.

To the left we next notice CAVENDISH, situated on the Stour, between Long Melford and Clare. The church is a handsome structure, with a square tower, and is said to have been built by one of the abbots of Bury. A younger branch of the Gernons, a family of considerable note in Norfolk and Essex, being seated in this village, of which they were lords, assumed the name of De Cavendish, and produced several individuals of great eminence. Sir John Cavendish, who was born here, being chief justice of the king's bench, had the misfortune to fall into the hands of Wat Tyler's rabble, who being exasperated at the intelligence of the death of their chief by the hands of his son, was dragged to Bury, and there his head being struck off, was set upon the pillory at the market cross. It was his youngest son, John, one of the esquires to the body of Richard II. that despatched Tyler in Smithfield, after he had been stabbed by Sir William Walworth, for which he was knighted on the spot by the king, who also settled a pension of 40*l.* on him and his heirs for ever.

On a line with this place is CLARE. This town,

formerly a place of considerable note, situated on the river Stour, 14 miles from Bury, at present contains 253 houses and 1170 inhabitants. It has a weekly market on Fridays, and two annual fairs, on Easter Tuesday and July 26. The houses are generally old and unsightly, though the streets being broad, render the buildings less objectionable. A house on the north side of this place long attracted attention on account of its ornaments, consisting chiefly of armorial bearings and foliage, but these have been so defaced by white-wash that it is no easy matter to describe them. The front of a house near the market exhibits, in basso relievo, the figure of a swan fastened to a tree with a gold chain; this has been renewed and beautified, but what the fact was that the swan was meant to exhibit at present puts conjecture at defiance. The castle of Clare, once so celebrated, stood on the south side of the town, and from the few vestiges of it that remain, does not appear to have been inferior in grandeur to any of the feudal mansions in the kingdom. The site of the whole, as far as it can be traced at present, contains about 20 acres, once surrounded by water, and divided into an inner and outer bailey, the latter only being inclosed with a wall. On the summit of a steep hill about 100 feet high, and of no great circumference at the base, probably of artificial formation, a fragment of the keep still remains. A narrow path winding round the hill leads to this relic of antiquity, which, when surrounded with verdure, forms a picturesque object. It seems to have been of a circular form within, but the exterior was a polygon, with buttresses at the angles; there

are three of these buttresses in the part yet remaining. A fragment of the wall, well built, like the keep, with a composition of mortar and flints, runs down the hill, along the north side of the area of the castle, and a small portion is still standing on the opposite side. This is all that remains to attest the existence of the once magnificent castle of Clare. Respecting the foundation of this structure there are no accounts that can possibly challenge implicit belief. Seated on the frontier of the kingdom of the East Angles, the most probable conjecture is that it was erected during the Saxon heptarchy, though no mention is made of it in history till near two centuries after the union of the petty sovereignties in the person of Egbert. At this time, and during the reigns of Canute, Hardicanute, and Edward, Aluric, an earl, the son of Withgar, was in possession of it, and in the beginning of the 10th century founded in the castle the church of St. John the Baptist, in which he placed seven prebends. At the period of the Norman conquest, Clare was one of the 95 lordships in this county, assigned by William to his kinsman, Richard Fitz Gilbert, to whose assistance he conceived himself materially indebted for his victory at Hastings. From this place he was sometimes denominated Richard de Clare, though he was more usually known by the name of Tonebruge, from his residence at the town of Tunbridge in Kent. He left his English estates to his son Gilbert, who likewise made Tunbridge his seat, and who by a deed bearing date 1090, attested at the castle of Clare, gave to the monks of Bec, in Normandy, the church of St. John Baptist here, with the prebends belonging to it. This

nobleman was created Earl of Pembroke by King Stephen, and on his death, in the 14th year of that king's reign, was succeeded by his son, the celebrated Richard Strongbow, the first English adventurer who went to Ireland for the purpose of reducing that country. As he died without male issue, his estates in England devolved to his uncle Richard, supposed to have been the first of the family dignified with the title of the Earl of Clare. By him the monks of the castle here were translated to the church of St. Augustine at Stoke.

The fourth in descent from this Richard was Gilbert, surnamed the *Red*, who having obtained a divorce from his first wife, Alice de March, daughter of Guy, Earl of Angouleme, married Joan of Acres, daughter of King Edward I. By this princess, who survived him, he had his son and successor, Gilbert, who dying without male issue, the honour of Clare became extinct, but his estate was divided among his three sisters. One of these ladies, Elizabeth, married to John de Burgh, son and heir to the Earl of Ulster, in Ireland, is more particularly memorable for having rebuilt and endowed University Hall, in Cambridge, and given it the name of *Clare Hall*, which it still retains.

The honour of Clare now lay dormant for some years, during which John de Hansted held the castle for life. On his decease, Lionel, third son of Edward III. being then lieutenant of Ireland, was in the 36th of that king's reign created Duke of Clarence. After several changes, by which the honour of Clare became dormant, it was not revived till the 22d of James I. when John Hollis of Houghton, in Nottinghamshire,

previously created Lord Houghton, was raised to the dignity of Earl of Clare. In 1688, John, his great grandson, succeeded to the earldom. He married Margaret, third daughter of Henry Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle; and on the death of his father-in-law, without male issue, he was, in consideration of his services in contributing to seat William III. on the throne, created by him Marquis of Clare and Duke of Newcastle. In his time he was accounted the richest peer in England; but having no male issue, he left the bulk of his landed possessions to Thomas Holles Pelham, whom King George I. successively invested with the titles borne by his uncle, which again became extinct with that family during the succeeding reign. At length, in 1789, his present Majesty conferred the Dukedom of Clarence on his third son, Prince William Henry.

Near the ruins of the castle of Clare, is *Clare Priory*, formerly a monastery of canons regular of St. Augustine, founded in 1248, by Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, from whom descended the Mortimers, Earls of March, and the royal house of York, as related in the pedigree of Joan of Acres, daughter of Edward I. and wife of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and also in a poem inserted in Weever's Funeral Monuments. Henry VIII. granted this priory to Richard Friend, and a part of the buildings have nearly ever since that time been occupied as a dwelling-house. They have been recently repaired, but retain with the name much of the appearance of their original destination. This priory is now the seat of Mrs. Barker. In the church belonging to it, which has been many years since converted into a barn, lies

the body of Joan of Acres, second daughter of Edward I., by his Queen Eleanor, who was born in the first year of her father's reign, at Ptolemais, in the Holy Land, commonly called Acre, and celebrated in modern history by the defeat of Bonaparte when he laid siege to it, by Sir Sidney Smith and Djezzar Pacha, the energetic old man. Her eldest son, by Ralph de Monthermer, and several other noble personages, were also interred in this church.

The parish church of Clare, an ancient and beautiful structure with a square tower, is at present the principal ornament of the place. From its stately appearance it is thought to have been erected at the cost of the lords, who allowed the town's-people the use of it. The font is of stone, and from its form and decoration, is evidently of the same age as the church. Among other persons of note interred here is Edmund, son of Roger Mortimer, Earl of March, and next heir to the crown after the death of Richard II. Here is however only one monument of a knight, supposed to be one of the Cavendish family.

About two miles north of Clare is the village of Poslingford: this was anciently the lordship of Ralph Baynard. The impropriation and advowson of the vicarage belonged to the priory of Dunmow, in Essex, and were granted by Henry VIII. to Robert, Earl of Sussex. Here is New Hall.

Stoke Juxta Clare. This has long been remarkable for the priory, translated from the castle of Clare hither, by Richard de Tonebridge, Earl of Clare. It belonged to the Benedictines, and about the year 1415, Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, augmented its revenues, and effected its exchange from a priory to a

many years, and to afford subsistence to a great number of persons, chiefly employed in the weaving of says, funeral crape, and ship's flags. Simon de Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1375, and who was beheaded by the populace in Wat Tyler's insurrection, was a native of this town. He built the upper end of St. Gregory's church, and on the spot where his father's house stood he founded and endowed a college, which at the suppression was valued at 122*l.* 18*s.* per annum. The same prelate, in conjunction with John de Chertsey, founded a priory here of the order of St. Augustine, though according to Weever, this was founded by Baldwin de Shimpling and Mabel his wife, both interred in the chancel of the priory church. During the reign of King John, Amicia, Countess of Clare, founded an hospital in this town, dedicated to Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary, and near it a church or chapel dedicated to St. Bartholomew, which was given to the abbey of Westminster by Wulfric, master of the mint under Henry II. in consequence of which a priory of Benedictine monks, subordinate to that abbey, was settled at Sudbury. This priory, of which Kirby has given a print, was not taken down till the year 1779. The body of Simon of Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury, was interred in St. Gregory's church in this town, where, in 1748, it is said, " his head is still shewn. It was not long since entire, the flesh and skin dried by art, the mouth wide open," &c. Mr. Gough says that it is still shewn, the skin tanned, and the ears entire. It is now deposited under a marble stone, four yards long, and two broad, in the chapel or part of the church which he built. The monument erected to his honour in the cathedral of Canterbury

is merely a cenotaph. An inscription in the window of the chapel, near his tomb, recorded his foundation in these words:

"Orate pro Domino Simone Theopold alias Sudbury qui istam capellam fundavit, Anno Domini 1365, in commemoratione Omnium animarum, Dedicat. dat. Consecrat.

Sudbury, since the river Stour has been rendered navigable to Manningtree, has carried on a comparatively brisk trade in the commodities consumed by the neighbouring counties, but of late it has been subjected to its share of the general depression occasioned by the transition from war to peace. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, seven aldermen, including the mayor, a bailiff, town clerk, 24 common councilmen, and two serjeants at mace.

To the left of this place is

Chilton, or Chipley, a hamlet of Clare. Here was formerly a small priory, which in the year 1468 was united to the college of Stoke. The remains of this have long been converted into a private dwelling-house. Chilton was formerly the residence of the family of the Cranes, of which Sir John was created a baronet in the year 1627, but this family and title have long been extinct. An ancient chapel here has been converted into a thatched cottage: the outer walls, built with flint and ragstone, the door, and a window on the north side, two small windows at the east end, and one in the south front, are almost the whole of the remains of this building. Chilton Park is the seat of John Addison, esq.

Proceeding towards Neyland, on our right are Great and Little Cornard, and Assington.

Cornard Magna was formerly the lordship of the Abbess of Malling, in Kent, who bought it of Thomas De Grey about the year 1317.

Cornard Parva was the lordship of Thomas De Grey, and Sir Roger De Grey, of Merton, in Norfolk, knt. died seised of it in 1371.

Assington. Sir Andrew de Nevile claimed the patronage and advowson of this church in the 18th year of Edward I. The manor afterwards belonged to the family of the Corbets, who were seated here. Sir Piers Corbet was a knight banneret in the time of Edward I. and Sir Thomas Corbet attended a tournament at Dunstable in the second year of Edward II. This family continued here till the reign of Henry VIII. when they sold the estate to Robert Gurdon, esq.

Passing through the village of *Newton*, at about two miles distance on the right, and about six miles from Sudbury, is

Boxford, situated in a fertile and highly cultivated valley, between two brooks, which unite a little below it. This place contains 135 houses, and 702 inhabitants. The town, consisting of several streets, carries on a considerable trade in malt, and has a manufactory for dressing sheep and deer skins. Here are annual fairs on Easter Monday and on the 21st of December.

The church is a spacious building, 95 feet long, and 52 broad, and has a spire steeple. The porch, on the south side, is of stone; over the entrances are seven niches, with a number of inscriptions, but not legible. The town contains a free grammar-school, founded by Queen Elizabeth.

About a mile south-east of Boxford is *Peyton Hall*, sometimes called *Polstead House*, being near that place,

The Conqueror granted this manor to Robert Malet, the progenitor of the ancient family of the Peytons, by whom it was long possessed; and south-west of Boxford church is Coddenham Hall, a good seat, formerly the residence of the Bennets, but since converted into a farm-house.

About a mile north of Boxford is

Groton, formerly the lordship of the Abbot of Bury. It was granted at the dissolution to Adam Winthorp, esq. in whose family it continued till about the fourth year of Charles I. It was afterwards the seat of the Warings.

Returning towards Neyland, we pass Averley Hall.

Neyland is seated on the north bank of the Stour, over which is a large brick bridge of one arch, leading into Essex. This place is subject to inundations from the lowness of its situation. Here is a weekly market on Fridays, and an annual fair on the 2nd of October. Neyland contains 223 houses, and 1242 inhabitants. The church, standing in the middle of the town, with its spire steeple, is its principal ornament. The ancient monuments here are chiefly to the memory of persons formerly eminent in the clothiery line, for which this town was once famous. One Abel, a cloth-worker, is said to have built the handsome porch of this church, in the wall of which he has a monument, and to signify his name, and also to make up his coat armour, the letter A. and the picture of a bell are cast upon the monument.

Stoke Juxta Neyland, or Stoke Neyland, is so called to distinguish it from Stoke Juxta Clare, and Stoke near Ipswich. Here was a monastery of considerable celebrity before the conquest. The church,

Engraved by W. Deeble from a Sketch by T. Higham, for the Excursions through Suffolk.

STOKE CHURCH,

by Neyland

SUFFOLK.

PENRHYN CASTLE.

The Seat of Sir W.m Pennlen Bar.t M.P

SUPPLK.

with its majestic steeple, is a noble structure. This may be seen as far off as Harwich, a distance of twenty miles. Neyland, though containing a much greater number of houses, is only a chapel of ease to the church of Stoke.

The church at Neyland contains several handsome monuments for the Howards. In the south part, between the high altar and choir, is interred Catherine, first wife of John Howard, Duke of Norfolk, slain at the battle of Bosworth, in support of Richard III., with this inscription:

"Under this stone is buried the body of the right honourable woman and ladie, sometime wife unto the right high and mighty prince Lord John Howard, Duke of Norfolk, and mother unto the right noble and puissant prince Lord Thomas Howard, Duke also of Norfolke, who departed this present life, Ann. Dom. 1452."

Giffard's Hall, in this parish, with the estate, has been in possession of the Mannock family since the time of Henry VI., being then purchased by Philip Mannock, who had previously resided at the neighbouring village of Stoke. This house surrounds a quadrangular court; the entrance by a tower gateway, said to have been built in the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. by Peter Gifford, a distant relative to Anne Bullen: however, the whole is of brick, and the mouldings of the windows, doors, and other ornaments, are of the same material. Opposite to this entrance are some remains of an old chapel.

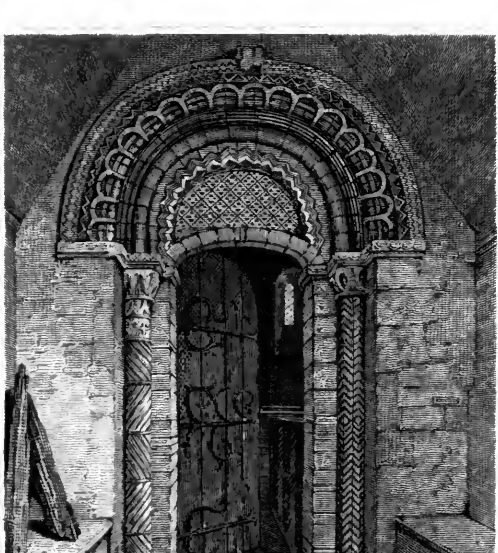
A little to the left of Neyland, between that place and Stoke, is situated

Tendring Hall: this anciently belonged to a family

of that name. William de Tendring had a grant of a market and fair at Stoke by Neyland, in the thirty-first of the reign of Edward I. Sir John Williams, knight, and Lord Mayor of London, one of its possessors, in the year 1736, built a fine seat here, which by purchase became the property of Sir William Rowley, one of the lords of the admiralty. Joshua, his son, gave several proofs of courage and conduct in the naval service, for which he was created a baronet in 1786. On his death, in 1790, Tendring Hall became the property of his son and successor, and is now in the possession of Sir William Rowley, bart. M. P. for Suffolk. To the right is

WISTON, sometimes called WISSINGTON. The Cluniac monks of Thetford had the advowson of this church by the gift of Robert, the son of Godbold, and they gave it to their cell of Horkesley in Essex. At two miles distance is

BURES, or BUERS. This village, on the Stour, is the place where, according to Galfridus de Fontibus, St. Edmund was crowned king of the East Angles. Other writers contend that Bury was the scene of that royal ceremony. The church and spire at Buers were formerly a great ornament to the village, but in the year 1733 the latter was set on fire by lightning, and burned down to the steeple, which was much damaged, the bells melted, and the frames consumed. In a tomb on the north side of this church lies the cross-legged figure of a knight, according to tradition, named Cornard, and who is said to have sold a farm in the parish called *Corn Hall*, for fourpence, in the time of Henry III. The monuments of the *Buers*, who took their name from this place, are to be seen here.



Engraved by W. Deeble &c. &c. Drawing by J. Topham, for the Excursions of Engl. & Wales.

South Door-way

WISTON CHURCH,

SUFFOLK.

Pub.d 1.st May 1.st 1809 by Longman & Co. Paternoster Row.

Several of the Walgrave family are also interred in this church, as Sir Richard Walgrave, knight, who died in 1400, and Joanna, his wife, in 1406, to the inscription on whose tomb is added:—"He that prays for others, labours for himself."

A legacy of 2000*l.* was left by William Martin, esq. of Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, in the hands of certain trustees; and from the interest of this as well as other things, the sum of 40*l.* was bequeathed to be annually paid to the vicar of this parish, and his successors for ever.

The bridge over the Stour here leads through this hamlet to Colchester. *Galfridus de Fontibus*, who wrote about the year 1156, tells us, that King Edmund, who was cruelly murdered by the Danes at Hoxne, in this county, was crowned here. His words are these:—"Being unanimously approved, they brought him to Suffolk, and in the village called *Burum* made him king; the venerable prelate Hunibert assisting, and anointing and consecrating Edmund to be king. Now Burum is an ancient royal hill, the known bound between East Sexe and Suffolk, and situate upon the Stour, a river most rapid in summer and winter." This passage, the author of the Additions to Camden remarks, is the more observable, because it shews what we are to understand by *Burva* in Asserius's Life of Alfred, and that it is not *Bury*, as the Chronicle under Brompton's name supposes, nor yet *Burne*, in Lincolnshire, but this *Bures*, or *Buers*, as Matthew of Westminster calls it.

EXCURSION II.

FROM BURY ST. EDMUNDS TO THETFORD, FROM THETFORD TO NEWMARKET, RETURNING TO BURY.

Through Fornham St. Martin, Ingham, Barnham, Thetford, Elvedon, Little Barton, Herringswell, Newmarket, Kentford, and Saxham.

ON commencing our present excursion, which extends through the north-west corner of the county, we proceed, in the first instance, towards the north, and at about the distance of three miles from Bury arrive at the Fornhams, lying in, and on the left of our road.

FORNHAM ST. MARTIN is on the high road. This manor formerly belonged to the abbot of Bury, and was granted, with the other Fornham, to Sir Thomas Kitson by Henry VIII.

At about a mile distant on the left is

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS. Out of lands in this parish Penelope, Countess of Rivers, gave a rent charge of 8*l.* per ann. in order that a sermon should be preached against popery four times a year at Bury. This lady had the singular fortune to marry in succession three gentlemen who had been her suitors at the same time, but had children only by her second husband, Sir John Gage, of Firle in Sussex: she left the estate of Hen-

grave to her second son Edward. Near this village a battle is said to have been fought by Edward, son of King Alfred, with Ethelwald, his uncle's son, over whom he obtained a complete victory. A little beyond, on the left, is

HENGRAVE, which belonged, in the reign of Edward I., to Edmund de Hengrave, a celebrated lawyer; and in 1375 to Thomas Hethe. Having devolved to the crown in the reign of Henry VIII., it was purchased of this monarch by Sir Thomas Kitson, who built the fine old hall, and made it the family seat. In July, 1662, Edward Gage, esq. of this place, was created a baronet: he had five wives, and died in 1707, at the age of 90; and from him the title and property has been transmitted to Sir Thomas Gage, the present possessor.

The date of the erection of *Hengrave Hall* is fixed by the following inscription, in three compartments, cut in stone, on the outside of the curious oriel window over the entrance: *Opus hoc Fieri Fecit Tome Kytson In Dieu et mon Droit Anno D'Ni MCCCCC Trieesimo Octavo.* The whole of this mansion is of brick and stone; and Mr. Gough observes, "the gateway is of such singular beauty, and in such high preservation, that perhaps a more elegant specimen of architecture of that age can scarcely be seen." It was once more extensive than at present, several alterations having been made, and some parts at the north and north-east angle taken away in 1775. The building, which is still large, incloses a quadrangular court, and the apartments open into a gallery, the windows of which overlook this court. They formerly contained a quantity of stained glass, and the bay window in the hall still retains

some fine specimens, consisting of various armorial bearings; this window is also very splendid from its glazing, mullions, fan-tracery, pendants, and spandrils, all of which nearly resemble the highly florid example in Henry VII.'s chapel. The form of the turrets on each side of the entrance, and at the corners of the building, as also of the two small turreted columns at the door, bear a striking resemblance to Moorish minarets, or the cupolas of Indian edifices.

Some years since this mansion was the abode of a sisterhood of expatriated nuns from Bruges, to whom the owner of Hengrave liberally afforded an asylum. During their residence here they lost, by death, their superior, a lineal descendant of the great Sir Thomas More. When the decree in favour of the emigrants was issued in France, they availed themselves of the permission to return; but in 1810, a domestic chapel, fitted up in one of the angles of the building, and provided with an organ, remained in the state in which they left it.

Very near the hall stands a small church, which is distinguished by one of those round towers peculiar to Suffolk and Norfolk; but as the rectory has been consolidated with Flempton many years, no use seems to be made of this edifice. The principal monuments in the interior are those of the Kitsons; John Bouchier, Earl of Bath, who married into the family; his son John, Lord Fitz-Warren; Thomas, son of Earl Rivers; and many of the Gages. A fine marble tomb to the memory of Sir Thomas Kitson, the founder of Hengrave Hall, with effigies of himself and one of his first wives, possesses this singularity, that a blank is left for her name and parentage. This gentleman, who

came from the obscure village of Yealland, in Lancashire, having accumulated immense wealth as a clothier, received the honour of knighthood, and purchased the manor of Hengrave from the crown; besides this he possessed several other estates in Suffolk, Devonshire, Dorsetshire, and in the city of London, for which he served the office of sheriff: he was afterwards appointed, by the Duke of Norfolk, steward of the franchise of Bury St. Edmund's, and died Sept. 13, 1540, aged 55.

Fornham St. Genoveve lies rather beyond the other Fornhams. This manor formerly belonged to the abbot of Bury. Near this place, in the 20th of Henry II. or the year 1173, Richard de Lucy, chief constable of England, and Humphrey de Bohun, the king's constable, beat Robert, Earl of Leicester, in a pitched battle, and killed ten thousand Flemings whom he had got over to his assistance. Blomefield observes, "Their sepulchres are now to be seen near a place called Rymer House, on the right hand of the road leading from Thetford to Bury, and are now called the Seven Hills, though there are many more; but seven of them being much larger than the rest, are particularly taken notice of by those that pass this way, under which, most probably, the commanders were buried."

In this place is a seat and park belonging to the Duke of Norfolk.

Flempton lies about four miles to the left of the high road. This village belonged to Bury Abbey, and was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Kitson. A road from this place leads westward to

Cavenham, or *Canham:* this was anciently the lord-

ship and demesne of Gilbert, Earl of Clare. The manor of Shardelows, in Cavenham, belonged to Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham, in the 28th of the reign of Henry VI. Returning towards the road, leaving the little village of Tuddenham on our left, at rather more than two miles distance, we come to

LACKFORD. This is one of the manors that belonged to Hugh de St. Philibert, in the 7th of Edward III. About two miles and a half from this place, rather to the north-west, is Icklingham.

ICKLINGHAM, four miles eastward of *Mildenhall*, and north of the Lark, has two parishes and two parish churches, St. James's and All Saints. In the latter, within the rails of the communion table, and about the chancel, is a considerable quantity of Roman bricks that were ploughed up in a neighbouring field: they are of different shapes, slightly traced with the figures of animals, flowers, human faces, &c. and some few of them are vitrified. This place is supposed by some to have been the ancient Roman station *Combretonium*, or, according to Horsley, *Comboritum*. Here, at any rate, says the author of a Tour through England, generally ascribed to Richardson, are vestiges of a settlement which seems to have extended half a mile in length, at a small distance from the river. On the west side of the ruins is a square encampment now called Kentfield, a corruption of Campfield, and which seemed to have contained about twenty-five acres. The vallum is visible all around it, except where the moorish ground has wasted it away. Coins and fibulæ have been found here in the moors and ploughed grounds, especially when the former have been dug up for rais-

ing fences, and for draining. Many years since an ancient leaden cistern, containing sixteen gallons, and ornamented as with hoops, was discovered by a ploughman. Westward of the camp, upon Warren Hill, are three large barrows, each encompassed by a ditch.

About a mile and a half from Lackford, towards the north-east, is

West Stow. According to a mural monument in the chancel of the church here, the Crofts were in possession of this manor as early as the time of Edward I. It belonged afterwards to Bury Abbey. From the abbots of Bury it came to the Bacons, and the family of Progers, and next to Sir Sydenham Fowke, who married the heiress of Progers, who resided in West Stow Hall, and lastly to the Marquis Cornwallis. This is a spacious brick mansion, moated, and formerly surrounded by a quadrangular court, and well adapted by its interior construction for baronial customs and festivities. From the armorial bearings on the porch, it is supposed to have been built about the beginning of the sixteenth century; the arms are those of the Princess Mary, the wife of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. The building, much reduced in size, has long been used as a farm-house: the embattled pediments, diamond-shaped tracery, and the statues, are chiefly entitled to notice, as curious and unusual appendages in buildings of this order. In this mansion a large collection of armour was formerly preserved. Nearly adjoining to West Stow, between that place and the high road, is

Culford. This was the chief country residence of the late Marquis Cornwallis, the widow of one of whose ancestors married Sir Nathaniel Bacon, half brother to Sir Francis. It is a neat comfortable house,

agreeably situated in a park, and was built, in 1591, by Sir Nicholas Bacon, the first baronet of England, and eldest son of the Lord Keeper, and was given by him, with an estate of 1000*l.* per annum, to his seventh son, Nathaniel. This gentleman was created Knight of the Bath at the coronation of Charles I., and married Jane Meautys, widow of Sir William Cornwallis, by whom he had a son, who died without issue, and a daughter, married first to Sir Thomas Meautys, and afterwards to Sir Harbottle Grimston, bart. Sir Nathaniel was a painter, and some specimens of his art remain at Gorhambury.

The church at Culford, a small neat edifice, was built by Sir Stephen Fox, whose daughter was the wife of the third Lord Cornwallis. The monument of Sir Nathaniel Bacon is decorated with a good marble bust, and an epitaph, which informs us that he was well skilled in the history of plants, and the art of delineating them with his pencil. His lady is also interred here, with an inscription, giving her a high character as having supported and saved from ruin two ancient families, into which she had been married.

We now rejoin the road at Ingham, a village entirely void of interest; and proceeding a mile further we arrive at

Ampton. The family of Calthorpe, which long resided at Ampton Hall, became extinct in the person of Sir Henry Calthorpe, who, dying in 1788, devised all his estates to the male heir of his sister Barbara, wife of Sir Henry Gough of Edgbaston, on condition that his nephew should assume the name of Calthorpe; which being complied with in 1796, he was elevated

Engraved by S. Roberts from a Sketch by T. Higham, for the Excursions through Suffolk.

Remains of

WEST STOW HALL.

SUFFOLK.

Pub.d April 1 1818 by Longman & Co Paternoster Row

to the peerage by the title of Baron Calthorpe, of Calthorpe, in the county of Norfolk.

In the park of Ampton Hall, and that of Livermere, Mr. Young observes, the owners, with a harmony very unusual, made a noble serpentine river through both, and built a large, handsome bridge over it at their joint expense, by which means they ornamented their grounds to a degree otherwise impossible. In Lord Calthorpe's park the water forms a bend against the slope of a wood, which has a very noble effect. Upon the whole, this river, considering it is formed out of a very trifling stream, Mr. Young observes, is one of the finest waters he has ever seen in the grounds of any private gentleman. Mr. Lee Acton has a shrubbery of twenty acres cut out of his park, that is laid out in very just taste: the water and scoop in it are particularly beautiful; the first winds through a thick planted wood, with a very bold shore, in some places wide, in others so narrow that the overhanging trees join their branches, and even darken the scene, which has a charming effect. The banks are every where uneven; first wild and rough, and covered with bushes and shrubs; then a fine green lawn in gentle swells, with scattered trees and shrubs to the banks of the water, and seats disposed with great judgment; and at the termination of the water, the abruptness and ill-effect of that circumstance is taken off by finishing with a dry scoop, which is amazingly beautiful; the bed of the river is continued for some distance along a sloping lawn, with banks on each side, planted and managed with great taste; "nor did I conceive," continues Mr. Young, "that weeping willows could any where but hanging over the water have been attended with so

beautiful an effect as they have on the steeps of these slopes."

At Ampton is a comfortable almshouse for poor unmarried women, built and endowed in pursuance of the will of Mrs. Dorothy Calthorpe, a maiden lady, which benefaction is commemorated in the following inscription on the front of the edifice:

MDXIII
Dorothea Calthorpe
Hospitium hoc fundavit
Virgo in virginum solamen.

Over the entrance to a walled garden contiguous to the building, these words are inscribed, *Tam voluptati quam saluti.*

This Lady Calthorpe having once resided in Bury, in consideration of that circumstance left by her will the sum of 500*l.*, the interest of which was to be employed in binding out poor boys apprentices: this sum, however, fell short, from losses in her estate, which had debts owing to it.

To the right of this place we observe the two Livermeres or Livermores.

Livermere Magna. John Bokenham was lord of this manor and patron of the church in 1467: this benefice and that of Livermore Parva are consolidated. Livermore Parva formerly gave name to Bartholomew Livermore, lord of the manor. It afterwards belonged to Mr. Coke, who built the hall, and left it to the Duke of Grafton, who made it his residence for some time. Baptist Lee, esq. considerably enlarged this neat mansion, and inclosed it with a large park. Livermere Hall is now the seat of N. Lee Acton, esq.

A little to the northward of Livermere Magna is the village of Troston.

Troston Hall is the seat of Capel Lofft, esq. a gentleman well known in the literary world. It is one of those mansions of a former age, which inspire an idea of comfort and hospitality, rather than of cold magnificence. It contains a copious library, and the proprietor has been at considerable pains to make every appendage consistent with his own peculiar taste. To this end he has inscribed almost every tree in his garden and its vicinity, either to names of classic celebrity, to such as are endeared by the ties of kindred and friendship, or are venerable for the superior virtues of the persons who bore them. Thus we find Homer, Demosthenes, Cicero, Milton, and many others: a large elm is denominated the Evelyn elm, after the celebrated antiquary and planter; and to commemorate a visit to Troston Hall of the great philanthropist Howard, in 1786, a laurel was planted, and now bears his name. Bred to the bar, and still occasionally exercising his professional talents at the quarter-sessions and assizes for the county, Mr. Lofft, who now resides at Ipswich, used here to relax in the more pleasing pursuit of the belles lettres, and especially poetry: astronomy also constitutes one of his favourite recreations. His works have been chiefly on legal and political subjects. He is not only an author himself, but has proved on various occasions the warm patron of literary talents in others, and to him the public are in a great measure indebted for the introduction of the Farmer's Boy to their notice.

To the honour of Suffolk, it must be allowed that the patronage which was denied to the author of the

Farmer's Boy in the metropolis was liberally afforded him in his own county. It is no derogation to the rest of his patrons, to say that the *primum mobile* of their exertions originated with the liberal proprietor of Troston Hall, who made himself personally acquainted with the poet there, in the year 1800. According to Mr. Capel Lofft's own narration, prefixed to the latest editions of the Farmer's Boy, he received in November 1798, a MS. which he was requested to read and to give his opinion of. It was left for him by Mr. George Bloomfield, the brother of the author, and he had recommended it with a very modest, sensible, and candid letter. It had before been *shewn* to some persons *in London*, whose indifference toward it may be probably explained, when it is considered that it came to their hands under no circumstances of adventitious recommendation. With some, Mr. Lofft observes, a person must be rich, or titled, or fashionable as a literary name, in some respect good or bad, before any thing he can offer will be thought worthy of notice. "I had," he continues, "been a little accustomed to the effect of prejudices, and I was determined to judge in the only just and reasonable way of the work, by the work itself. At first, I confess, seeing it divided into the Four Seasons, I had to encounter a prepossession not very advantageous to any writer, that the author was treading in a path already so admirably trod by Thomson, and might be adding one more to an attempt already so often, but so injudiciously and unhappily made, of transmitting that noble poem from blank verse into rhyme; from its own pure native gold, into an alloyed metal of incomparably less splendour, permanence, and worth. I had soon, how-

ever, the pleasure of finding myself relieved from that apprehension, and of discovering, that although the delineation of rural scenery naturally branches itself into these divisions, there was little except the general qualities of a musical ear, flowing numbers, feeling, piety, poetic imagery and animation, a true sense of the natural and pathetic, force of thought, and liveliness of imagination, which were in common between Thomson and this author.

"But with these general characters of true poetry, 'The Farmer's Boy' has a character of its own. It is discriminated as much as the circumstances and habits, and situation, and ideas, consequently associated, which are so widely diverse in the two authors, could make it different. Simplicity, sweetness, a natural tenderness, that *molle atque facetum*, which Horace celebrates in the eclogues of Virgil, will be found to belong to it."

Mr. Lofft then proceeds to give the account of the author himself, such as he received from his brother, to whom he was entirely a stranger, but of whose candour and good sense he had not the least doubt. "Mr. George Bloomfield," says he, "concludes this clear, affectionate, and interesting narrative, by a very kind address to the writer of this preface; but pleased as I am with the good opinion of a man like him, I must not take praise to myself for not having neglected or suppressed such a work when it came into my hands. And I have no further merit than that of seeing what it was impossible for an unprejudiced mind not to see, and of doing what it was impossible not to do.

"My part has been this, and it has been a very pleasing one; to revise the MS. making occasional corrections with respect to orthography, and sometimes

in the grammatical construction. The corrections, in point of grammar, reduce themselves almost wholly to a circumstance of provincial usage, which even well educated persons in Suffolk and Norfolk do not wholly avoid, that of adopting the plural for the singular termination of verbs, so as to exclude the *s*; but not a line is added or substantially altered through the whole poem. I have requested the MS. to be preserved, for the satisfaction of those who may wish to be satisfied on this head. And those who have shewn themselves the friends of the Farmer's Boy, must excuse me if I mention some of them whose liberal and zealous attention had excited those feelings in the heart of his brother, and have filled his with sentiments of thankfulness. The Duke of Grafton has every way shewn himself attentive to the genius, the worth of Mr. Bloomfield: he has essentially added to his comforts. His royal highness the Duke of York, by Captain Bunbury, has made a liberal present, as an acknowledgment of the pleasure received from the perusal of his excellent poem. This attention of his royal highness, liberal and amiable in itself, has been the cause of like liberality in others. It suggested to Dr. Drake, and other gentlemen at Hadleigh, the idea of a local subscription of a guinea each, in that town and neighbourhood. This has been carried into effect by himself and 11 other friends. With a large proportion of those who have thus stood forth the friends of genius and worth, I have the pleasure of being acquainted.

"Sir Charles Bunbury has warmly expressed his approbation of the poem, as not only excellent for a Farmer's Boy, but such as would do honour to any person, whatever his education, and he has also con-

tributed to make it early and advantageously known. Mr. Green of Ipswich has spoken of it as a charming composition, reflecting in a very natural and vivid manner the series of interesting images which touched the sensibility of a young, an artless, but a most intelligent observer of nature, placed in a situation highly favourable to observation, though in fact not often productive of it. That originality in such a subject is invaluable, and that this poem appears to him (I know few men so qualified to judge on such a point) throughout original. And literary characters who have earned to themselves much of true praise by their own productions, Mr. Dyer and Dr. Drake, of Hadleigh, have given full and appropriate encomium to the excellence, both in plan and execution, of this admirable rural poem. My friend, Mr. Black, of Woodbridge, has noticed it in a very pleasing and characteristic letter, addressed to me, in verse. I believe I shall not be just to the Farmer's Boy, if I omit to notice that the taste and genius of Mrs. Opie, born to do honour to every department of the fine arts, have given her a high sentiment of its merits. I understand there is a prose translation of the Farmer's Boy into French, and it is translating into Italian. This is one instance of its immediate celebrity: another will be, that in the latter end of the year 1802, when the seventh edition was published, 26,000 copies had been printed in two years and three quarters, to which several large impressions have since been added." These circumstances are sufficient to justify Mr. Lofft and his Suffolk friends for the partiality they have shewn for their favourite poet.

From Troston a road leads us back into the high road, and we proceed to

Barnham, which consists of two parishes, St. Martin and St. Gregory, having formerly had two parish churches: that of St. Martin has long been in ruins. It was once the lordship of John de Shyrtle. Between this place, Rushford, Euston, and Thetford, there is a row of 10 or 11 tumuli, and here Mr. Blomefield, the Norfolk historian, supposes the great battle between King Edward and the Danes to have been fought, in the year 871.

Barnham Water is a small rivulet which crosses the road from Euston to Thetford: "it is in the midst of a bleak unwooded scene," and justifies the Suffolk poet's lamentation in its fullest extent, who from this spot beholds

> The Danish mounds of partial green,
> Still as each mouldering tower decays,
> Far o'er the bleak unwooded scene
> Proclaim their wondrous length of days.
> No mountain charms have I to sing,
> No loftier minstrel's rights invade;
> From trifles oft my raptures spring,
> Sweet Barnham Water *wants a shade.*

Proceeding along the border of the county, we next arrive at

Thetford. The whole or the greatest part of this once celebrated place seems to have been originally on the Suffolk side of the water; and there is still one parish, that of St. Mary, consisting of about 30 houses, avowedly in Suffolk. In the reign of Edward III. there were 13 parishes on the Suffolk side, and only

seven on the Norfolk. The priory of Cluniac monks, though soon removed to the opposite one, was first founded on the Suffolk side; but the houses of the canons of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Dominican friars, continued on this side till the dissolution.

We now turn towards the south-west, taking the road to Newmarket, and proceed to

Elvedon. This contains Monk's Hall manor. Here certain justices of the peace, when the king's commissioners only indicted the inhabitants of Bury for a trespass, after they had committed their ravages upon the abbey of that place, boldly and officiously proceeded against the offenders as felons, on which they were brought to trial, and 19 persons suffered death.

To the right of Elvedon is Elvedon Hall, late the seat of the Earl of Albemarle: the present owner is R. Newton, esq.

From Elvedon, passing over nearly eight miles of uncultivated country, we arrive at

Barton Mills, or Little Barton; so called to distinguish it from another Barton, in the hundred of Thedwastre. The manor here was given to the abbot of Bury by one Robert Hoo, but the advowson of the church was given to the college of Stoke by Clare.

Nearly adjoining to this place is

Mildenhall, situated upon the river Larke: it is a large, pleasant, well built place, constitutes half a hundred of itself, and has a weekly market on Fridays, well supplied with fish, wild fowl, and all other provisions. Towards the fens which extend eastward to Cambridgeshire, are several large streets called by the inhabitants rows, as West-row, Beck-row, Holywell-row, most of them as large as ordinary villages. The

river here being navigable for barges, has considerably added to the trade and navigation of the town, which contains 351 houses, and 2493 inhabitants, and has an annual fair on the 10th of October. The church is a large handsome structure, with a rich roof of carved wood work, and consists of a spacious nave, two side aisles, a proportionate chancel, and a neat Gothic porch. It contains several monuments belonging to the family of the Norths. The noble mansion of Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, bart. late one of the representatives of this county, is situated to the north of this edifice. It was formerly the residence of his great uncle, Sir Thomas Hanmer, speaker of the House of Commons in Queen Anne's reign: he died in 1746. A manor of this town was given by Edward the Confessor to the Abbey of Bury, that the religious might eat wheaten instead of barley bread. This prince, who, by the leave of his clergy, was also a mighty hunter before the Lord, received yearly from the single manor of Barton, near Gloucester, "three thousand loaves of bread for the maintenance of his dogs." The ancient mansion of the Norths is of the time of Elizabeth, or early in the reign of James I. It contains numerous apartments, and a gallery the whole length of the front; but the rooms in general are of small dimensions. On the 17th of May, 1507, this town suffered severely by a fire, which, in two hours, destroyed thirty-seven dwelling houses, besides barns, stables, &c.

A good road from Mildenhall leads to Brandon, which we shall pursue, observing the villages of Eresweil and Wangford, which lie between us and that place.

Eresweil. This manor was held of the king *in*

capite, as of his Honour of Boulogne, by Ralph of Roucestre and his descendants; and in the first year of Edward II. was so held by Robert de Tudenham, and Eve his wife. Besides the parish church, there was at the north end of the parish a chapel dedicated to St. Lawrence; and in one of these a chantry, of the yearly value of 9*l.*

WANGFORD was the seat of Lord Chief Justice Wright, well known in the reign of King James II. The church is partly built of bricks, and partly of flints, and has a newly-erected spire and steeple, for the expense of which a peal of bells was sold by the parish.

BRANDON is agreeably situated on the Little Ouse, and had formerly a market, now discontinued. It contains 206 houses and 1360 inhabitants, and has three annual fairs for cattle and toys, on the 14th of February, 11th of June, and 11th of November. The river being navigable from Lynn to Thetford, has a bridge over it at this place, and a mile lower down a ferry over for conveying goods to and from the Isle of Ely. Brandon is well built, and the church is a good structure. Some extensive rabbit warrens in the neighbourhood largely contribute to the supply of the London markets. One of these alone is said to furnish forty thousand rabbits in a year. Here is also a manufactory of gun-flints, the refuse of which, thrown together at the end of the town, forms such heaps as would astonish a stranger on account of their magnitude. This town gave name to the illustrious family of the Brandons, and afterwards conferred the title of baron on Charles Gerard, who, for his zeal in the service of Charles I. was created by that monarch Lord Gerard of Brandon, and advanced by his son Charles

to the dignity of Earl of Macclesfield. On the extinction of this family, Queen Anne, in 1711, created the Duke of Hamilton a peer of England by the title of Baron Dutton and Duke of Brandon. Simon Eyre, who was lord mayor of London in 1445, was a native of Brandon. At his own expense he erected a granary for the metropolis, with a handsome chapel on the east side of the square of Leadenhall market, and over the porch was this inscription: *Dextra Domini exaltavit me*; "The right hand of the Lord hath exalted me." He moreover left 5000 marks, a very large sum in those days, for charitable purposes; and dying in 1459, was interred in the church of St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard-street. About three miles to the north-east of this place, and bordering on Norfolk, is

Downham, also called Sandy Downham, a village seated on the Little Ouse, and remarkable for an inundation of sand, which, in 1668, threatened to overwhelm the whole place. This circumstance is related at large in a letter written by Thomas Wright, esq. who had been a great sufferer by it. Mr. Wright supposes that at the eruption of this sand from some sandhills at Lakenheath, it did not cover more than eight or ten acres of ground; but before it had travelled four miles from its first abode, it increased so as to cover more than a thousand. All the opposition it met with from Lakenheath to Downham was from one farm-house, which the owner endeavoured to secure by building bulwarks against it; but perceiving this would not answer his purpose, he changed his plan, and instead of endeavouring to prevent its approach, he gave it free passage, and, by slighting his works, was fairly rid of it in four or five years time. After

this sand had reached Downham, it continued ten or twelve years in the outskirts of the place without doing any considerable damage. One end of the town, however, met with a worse fate, where many houses were overthrown or buried, and their pastures and meadows, which for a small town were considerable, were destroyed. The Little Ouse here at the same time was nearly choked up.

Having thus noticed these places to the northward, we now proceed from Mildenhall towards the south, and a mile distant observe

Worlington. This is thought to be the same as Wredelington, which William de Valence had the advowson of in the reign of Edward I. There is nothing remarkable in the present state of this village: but in this parish lived the late Sir Guy Cooper, bart. and his son, Colonel Cooper, now does or lately did live here. Pursuing the same direction, we next arrive at

Freckingham, which has been a peculiar of the diocese of Rochester ever since the time of William the Conqueror. This place lies on the borders of Cambridgeshire. A road from hence leads us past Red Lodge to Heringswell: this belonged to the abbot and convent of Bury, and lies in the high road from Little Barton, at about three miles distance from that place. We now cross a part of Cambridgeshire to notice Newmarket, which, though mostly in that county, has a considerable part of it lying within our limits.

Newmarket is sixty miles and three quarters from London, and contains 256 houses and 1431 inhabitants. The market is held on Thursdays; and here is an annual fair on Whit Tuesday, and on the 8th of November. The northern side of this town, which is in the

county of Suffolk, contains the greatest number of the houses, which are chiefly disposed in one long wide street, being mostly modern and well built. Many of them have been erected as residences for the nobility and private gentlemen who attend the races; these are extremely handsome. Two of the coffee-houses are very conveniently furnished for the use of the Betters, when they meet to ratify their agreements or settle matches. Billiard and other rooms are also prepared for the reception of those gentlemen who prefer games of skill or hazard to the more boisterous diversions of the turf, and excellent accommodations for visitors may be found in the numerous inns with which the town is provided. Here are two churches, one in Suffolk, the other in Cambridgeshire; but neither of them contain any thing remarkable. Newmarket has been twice destroyed by fire; the first time in 1683, in the presence of Charles II. his queen, and the Duke of York; the second fire happened about the commencement of the last century. The races are holden twice a year; in the Easter week; and in the month of October; at each of which the king gives a plate, in addition to those contributed by the nobility. Newmarket gave birth to Thomas Weeks, Bishop of Carlisle, the steady adherent to Richard II. Several coins of Trajan, one of Maximianus Herculeus, and one of Faustina, were found near the heath in the course of the last century.

Exning, or Ixning, is a village about a mile from Newmarket, in the centre of a small portion of Suffolk, joined only by the high road to the rest of the county, and otherwise surrounded by Cambridgeshire, to which, in the reign of Edward I., it gave the name

of a half hundred. This village, situated in a small vale, has a rivulet running through the midst of it, and is well shaded with fine poplars, producing an agreeable contrast to the monotony of the surrounding country, which in general presents one uniform naked plain. The church is a good and spacious building, with a lofty square tower that commands a very extensive prospect, and is seen at a great distance. In the chancel, very near the communion table, is a square altar tomb, close to the wall, of a coarse sort of grey marble, and was formerly adorned with brasses, of which it has been despoiled. Neither history nor tradition has preserved the name of the person for which this monument was raised. A few panes of painted glass remain in the window over the altar, but most of the figures are mutilated. One of these, without a head, has a golden wand, which probably formed part of a crosier. A large square brick mansion here was formerly the seat of the Shepherds, who possessed a good estate in this county. One side of the town of Newmarket is situated in the parish of Exning, as is also part of the heath so celebrated in the annals of racing. This village was the birthplace of Ethelred, whom the pope canonized for a virgin, though she was married to two husbands. Here, too, Ralph Waher planned his unsuccessful conspiracy against William the Conqueror, with Roger de Britolio, Earl of Hereford, Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland, and some other persons of high rank, which was soon stopped, partly by the desertion of Earl Waltheof, and some of the confederates, and partly by the vigilance of the king's friends, the Bishops of Worcester and Bayeux. Ralph, finding his situation hopeless, fled first into

France, and then to Denmark, leaving his possessions, and those of his adherents, to the mercy of their adversaries. From Newmarket we now pursue the mail road leading us back to Bury. But few places lie immediately on our direct road; we shall therefore turn to the right, and notice those situated in the south-east corner of the county bordering on Cambridge and Essex, which we have not already observed.

MOULTON contains nothing remarkable: a road about a mile and a half from Newmarket leads us to it, and thence to

GAZELEY. The church here was given to the college of Stoke by Clare, as the portion of one of the prebendaries. Kentford is a hamlet to Gazeley. Passing Carwick bridge, we next arrive at

DALHAM. This was the lordship of Walter de Norwich, a parliamentary baron, in the reign of Edward II. Passing to William de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, it afterwards belonged to the families of Stuteville, Patrick, and Affleck, which last was elevated to the honours of baronetage in 1782. Dalham Hall has since this period been their regular residence, and is at present that of Lieutenant General Sir James Affleck. This mansion was built about 1705 by Dr. Patrick, Bishop of Ely. The offices below are arched, and at the top there is a noble gallery, twenty-four feet wide, that runs quite through the building. On the summit of the steeple of Dalham Church is this inscription: "Keep my sabbaths, reverence my sanctuary."

Proceeding along the borders of Cambridgeshire, OWSDEN lies to our left.

Owsden Hall is the seat of the Reverend J. Hand.

About three miles from Dalham is

LIDGATE. Here was a mount, moated round near the church; but the place is more memorable for giving birth and name to John Lidgate, who was a Benedictine monk of Bury St. Edmund's, and much celebrated among his contemporaries for his learning and poetry. He died in 1440.

Proceeding about three miles further in the same direction, we arrive at

COWLING. This place has been distinguished for a good seat called *The Branches*, which with the manor was the estate of William Longsword, Earl of Salisbury, and the illegitimate son of Henry II. by Fair Rosamond. These were afterwards vested in Francis Dickins, esq. who had here a handsome mansion. Here was also a free chapel dedicated to St. Margaret, on whose feast-day, July 20, one of the fairs is kept; the other is on October the 6th.

From hence we proceed by Great and Little Bradley, two inconsiderable villages, to Great and Little Thurlow.

GREAT THURLOW. Here was once a small hospital or free chapel, granted by Edward IV. to the Maison de Dieu, now part of King's College, Cambridge. The hall here with the lordship formerly belonged to the Waldegraves, and afterwards to Sir Cordel Firebrace, who sold them to James Vernon, esq.

LITTLE THURLOW contains a noble old mansion, long the residence of the family of Soame, which was built by Sir Stephen Soame during the reign of Queen Elizabeth: he had been Lord Mayor of London; he also founded a free-school and an almshouse here, and died in 1619. The church contains a handsome monument to his memory. Passing Great and Little Wratting, we next arrive at

HAVERHILL. This is a long town: the south end of the street is partly in Suffolk and partly in Essex. Here is a market on Wednesdays, and two fairs.

Here were formerly two churches, at least a church and a chapel, one of which was called *Le nether Chirche* in Haverhill. The principal street is wide, but the houses are indifferent. The church is a large ancient structure, and there are two meeting-houses and a charity-school. This town was formerly of much greater extent than at present: the ruins of the other church and a castle are still visible. Turning to the eastward, and proceeding along the border of Essex, at about three miles distance we arrive at

KEDINGTON, now vulgarly *Ketton*. This was long the property of the Barnardiston family, which produced many persons of eminence, who resided at the fine mansion of Kedington Hall. The church contains many monuments to their memory, and in the south window one of them was represented with seven sons behind him, and his wife with the same number of daughters. At a little distance from this is a tomb for Sir Thomas Barnardiston and Elizabeth his wife, by whom that window was built. On the north side of the church is also a monument to another Sir Thomas Barnardiston, with his portraiture, and that of his lady, Elizabeth, who died in the commencement of the sixteenth century.

The celebrated Archbishop Tillotson was rector of this place in 1663, but held it a very short time.

BARNARDISTON, commonly called *Barnson*, lies about a mile to the northward, and gave its name to a family whose several branches have had seats at Kedington, Brightwell, and Wyverston, in this county. This place

formerly belonged to Thomas de Woodstock, Earl of Buckingham and Duke of Gloucester, sixth son of Edward III., and it was one of the estates with which he endowed the college of Pleshy, in Essex, on its foundation, 16 Richard II.

Hundon lies on a line with Barnardiston, about a mile to the eastward. Here was a manor, or reputed manor, with the parks called Great Park, Estry Park, and Broxley Park, granted to Sir John Cheke, in the third of Edward VI. as parcel of the possessions of Stoke by Clare. Stansfield and Denston lie still further to the north.

Denston, or *Denardeston*. Here was a college or chantry, granted in the second of Edward VI., with a manor called Beaumonds, to Thomas and John Smith. The lordship afterwards came to John Robinson, esq. lieutenant-colonel in the Coldstream regiment of Guards, and now a general officer, who occupies a beautiful seat in this parish.

Stansfield, and Straddishall, on a line with it, contain nothing remarkable.

Hawkedon lies to the eastward of Stansfield, and is about a mile distant. There were two manors here; one belonged to Philip Hammond, esq. who had a seat in this place, the other to the family of Maltyward. The seat of Swan Hall was long in the possession of the Abbots, but was afterwards purchased by the Stewart family.

Wickham Brook lies rather more than a mile to the northward of Denston: to this place it appears that several hamlets have been annexed. There was a free chapel here dedicated to St. Mary, of which Sir John Hastings, Lord Bergavenny, and his descendants,

were patrons: this chapel was granted by Queen Elizabeth, in 1583, to William Mansey, ironmonger, of London. Gifford's Hall manor was once in the family of Francis. Clopton, or Wickham House, was successively the residence of Major Robert Sparrow, and Robert Edgar, esq.

Depden lies about two miles to the north-east of Wickham Brook.

Depden Hall formerly belonged to the Jermyns, and afterwards to the Coels; it then became the seat of Coel Thornhill, esq. &c. This is remarkable as having been the birthplace of Anthony Sparrow, Bishop of Norwich, whose father, an opulent man, resided here.

Chedburgh, about a mile and a half further in the same direction, contains nothing remarkable.

Reed lies still further to the eastward; and here is Reed Hall, the manor-house of Reed, and another mansion called Downings, the inheritance of the ancient family of Sparrowe, with Pickards manor, &c. The church is in the gift of the crown.

On our way towards the high road we pass South Park, Southwood or Southwell Park, an extra-parochial place; nearly on a line with which are Hargrave and Chevington. The manor and advowson of the former belonged to the abbey of Bury; and William the Conqueror gave this latter lordship to the convent at Bury, by the desire of abbot Baldwin.

Denham lies in our way from these villages towards the great road, and was extra-parochial till Sir Edward Lewknor built a church or chapel here, and endowed it with the tithes. Denham Hall is still standing, near the church.

Passing Desning or Desnage Hall, we now rejoin

the road at Kentford, crossing Great Cameron Bridge, we leave Disnage Lodge on our left, and go on to Saxham White Horse, proceeding from which towards Great Saxham, we pass

Barrow. This was anciently the lordship and seat of the Countess of Gloucester. Robert, the son of John de Tybetot, died seized of Barewe in the 46th of Edward III; afterwards it belonged to Lord Badlesmere, who adhering to the Earl of Lancaster against Edward II, was taken prisoner in Yorkshire, and afterwards hanged. In the church is the monument of Sir Clement Higham, the last Roman Catholic speaker of the house of commons in the time of Queen Mary. Here, too, Mr. Gough observes, "The turnpike road from Bury to Newmarket is, unfortunately for the repose of some brave warriors, carried through a tumulus or barrow, in which human bones may at any time with very little trouble be discovered."

Saxham Magna. This lies at some distance from the high road, and the manor with the advowson of the church, which belonged to Bury abbey, was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Richard Long and his wife. For several descents it was in the family of Eldred, one of whom built the house so long known by the name of Nutmeg Hall, in the reign of James I. In 1641, his son, Revet Eldred, was created a baronet. The estate continued in this family till about 1750, when it was purchased by Hutchinson Mure, esq. who greatly improved and embellished the whole. In 1779 the old house was accidentally burned down, and a new one erected north-west of this from a plan by Mr. Adam.

At the upper end of the chancel on the south side of

the church, is a bust as large as life, of painted stone, and underneath this singular inscription :

Memoriæ Sacrum
John Eldred.

New Buckingham in Norfolk was his first being; in Babilon he spent some part of his time; and the rest of his earthly pilgrimage he spent in London, and was alderman of that famous cittie.

His age
His death } LXXX.

The Holy Land so called I have seene,
And in the land of Babilon have been;
But in yt land where glorious saints do live,
My soul doth crave of Christ a roome to give;
And there with holy angells hallelujahs sing
With joyful voice to God our heavenly king:
No content but in thee O Lord.

Under the bust of a raised monument, with a black marble on the top, very neatly inlaid in brass, is the figure of a man, about two feet long, with a ruff and furred gown, well engraven with the arms of Eldred, Revett, city of London, East India, Turkey, and Russia companies. At his feet, on three brass plates, are the following:

Curriculum vitæ peregre mercando peregi,
Ægyptum atque Arabes, Syrosque visens:
Eximiæ reduci et meritæ crevere coronæ
Nati, divitiæ, perenne nomen.
Felix grandævus morior; longissima quamvis
Sit vitæ via—terminus sepulchrum.

Might all my travels me excuse
For being deade and lying here;
Or if my riches well to use,
For life, to death might me endeare;

I had my fate or quite outgone,
Or purchased death's compassion;
But riches can no ransom buy,
Nor travels pass the destiny.

In Hackluyt's collection, an account is given of the voyage of this traveller to Tripoli in Syria, and his journey thence to Babylon in 1583. His son, Revett Eldred, being created a baronet, he thought he could not do too much for his father's memory in the monumental way. He married Anne Blackwell, and died without issue. In Olivers, the family seat of the Eldred family in Essex, many years since, was the portrait of an old man, with a ruff, short beard, and whiskers, supposed to represent this gentleman. This was sold with two other curious old paintings. A lady Ann Eldred left several charities to Saxham Magna in 1671. Saxham Magna is now the seat of Thomas Mills, esq.

Saxham Parva lies nearer to Bury. This was formerly the seat of the family of Lucas and Crofts. Several individuals of the Crofts received the honour of knighthood, and one of them, in the 36th of Queen Elizabeth, was high sheriff of the county. His grandson William, having been brought up from his youth at court, was appointed captain of the guard to Henrietta, queen of Charles I., gentleman of horse to the Duke of York, and gentleman of the bed-chamber to Charles II. He was a great sufferer by his adherence to the Stuart family. During his exile at Brussels, this monarch created him a peer of the realm, by the title of Lord Crofts of Saxham; but dying in 1677, without male issue, the title became extinct. His monument, and that of his lady, who died in 1672, are

to be seen in this church, where several other individuals belonging to that family are interred. The east window contains various coats of their arms in painted glass, and many of these, put up by the father of Colonel Rushbrook, had by him been removed to Rushbrook Hall. This church is remarkable for one of those round towers commonly ascribed to the Danes, 56 feet high and 59 in circumference. The upper part of this tower is embattled, and beautifully ornamented with window frames. The mansion-house, to which Lord Crofts had added a grand apartment for the reception of Charles II. was of brick, and probably built in the reign of Henry VII. It was pulled down in 1771, when it appeared as sound as at its first erection. The painted glass in the church was removed thither from this edifice.

Westley brings us within three miles of Bury. This place was anciently a lordship of the abbot of Bury, by the gift of Bishop Alfric, surnamed the Good, but granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Kitson.

Risby is about a mile distant from the road on the left. King Edward the Confessor gave this manor to Bury Abbey, and Henry VIII. granted it to Sir Thomas Kitson. Risby is at present only remarkable on account of the form of the church steeple, which being round, has been conjectured to be of Danish erection.

EXCURSION III.

From Bury St. Edmund's through Barton, Ixworth, Stanton, Hepworth, Snape Green, Botesdale, to Sturston.

BARTON, or GREAT BARTON, so called to distinguish it from Little Barton, or Barton Mills, was the estate of the ancient family of the Cottons at Nacton Hall. The present mansion here was built by —— Audley, esq. and was the seat of the Rev. Sir William Bunbury, bart. and afterwards much improved by his son, Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, one of the representatives of the county in nine parliaments, who built the fine large room which forms part of this mansion.

About two miles from Barton, and about a mile to the right of the road, is situated

PAKENHAM. This was for a long period the seat of the Spring family, originally from Houghton le Spring, in the county of Durham. Thomas Spring, the rich clothier, was buried at Lavenham. From him descended William Spring, of Pakenham, who was created a baronet in 1641. The ancient family of the L'Estranges possessed a seat here, as did also the Ashfields, at Nether Hall, in this parish. John Ashfield was the first high sheriff of Suffolk (separated from Norfolk) in the 17th of Queen Elizabeth. This family, as well as the Springs, have long been extinct. At the distance of seven miles from Bury we arrive at

Ixworth, situated on the road from Bury to Yarmouth. This village is memorable for a religious house, founded by Gilbert le Blund, or *Blount*, about the year 1100, in a pleasant valley by the river side. At the dissolution, as appears by a monumental inscription on the north side of the altar, this manor was granted by Henry VIII. in exchange for the manor of Nonsuch in Surrey. The Norton family afterwards built a neat mansion upon the site of the ancient priory.

Ixworth Thorpe is about a mile and a half to the left of Ixworth. The chief estate here belonged to this priory, and was granted to Richard and Elizabeth Codington.

Here dwelt Anne Rayner, Bloomfield's distracted girl of Ixworth Thorpe, but who afterwards arriving at a state of sanity, the poet acknowledged that he proved an indifferent prophet. However, the picture he drew of her has all the pathos, and perhaps more native interest about it than Sterne's Maria.

——————————— Nature's pride
Was lovely Ann, who innocently try'd
With hat of airy shape, and ribbons gay,
Love to inspire, and stand in Hymen's way;
But ere her twentieth summer could expand,
Or youth was render'd happy by her hand,
Her mind's serenity, her peace was gone,
Her eye grew languid, and she wept alone:
Yet causeless seem'd her grief, for quick restrain'd,
Mirth follow'd loud, or indignation reign'd;
Whims wild and simple led her from her home,
The heath, the common, or the fields to roam;
Terror and joy alternate rul'd her hours,
Now blithe she sung, and gather'd useless flow'rs.

* * * * * *

The damp night air her shiv'ring limbs assails,
In dreams she moans, and fancied wrongs bewails.
When morning wakes, none earlier rous'd than she,
When pendant drops fall glitt'ring from the tree;
But nought her rayless melancholy cheers,
Or soothes her breast, or stops her streaming tears.
Her matted locks unornamented flow,
Clasping her knees, and waving to and fro;
Her head bow'd down her faded cheek to hide,
A piteous mourner by the path-way side.
Some tufted molehill through the live long day,
She calls her throne, there weeps her life away:
And oft the gaily passing stranger stays
His well tim'd step, and takes a silent gaze,
Till sympathetic drops unbidden start,
And pangs quick springing muster round his heart,
And soft he treads with other gazers round,
And fain would catch her sorrow's plaintive sound:
One word alone is all that strikes his ear,
One short, pathetic, simple word, "Oh dear!"
A thousand times repeated to the wind,
That wafts the sigh, but leaves the pang behind.
For ever of the proffer'd parley shy,
She hears th' unwelcome foot advancing nigh,
Nor quite unconscious of her wretched plight,
Gives one sad look, and hurries out of sight.

Pursuing the cross road which leads from Ixworth to Euston, on leaving Ixworth Thorpe, at less than a mile, we arrive at Honington.

Honington. This lordship formerly belonged to the abbots of Bury. This village has lately been more distinguished on account of its having been the birth-place of Robert Bloomfield, author of the Farmer's Boy, &c. than for any circumstance connected with its previous history. He was the younger son of George Bloomfield, a tailor, and Elizabeth, daughter of Robert

Manby, the village school-mistress, who instructed her own offspring, with those of her neighbours. His father died a victim to the small-pox when his son was less than a twelvemonth old, and his mother was left a widow with six children.

It is observable that Bloomfield has incorporated the most material events of his life in his poems, in such a manner, that if all the passages were selected and duly arranged, his history would want but few additional particulars to be told in the descriptive language of his own muse. Thus in his "*Good Tidings*," after alluding to the distress occasioned by the small-pox in his family, he notices his parent's death, and the general horror which the contagion at that time inspired, in these words:

> Heaven restor'd them all,
> But destin'd one of riper age to fall.
> Midnight beheld the close of all his pain,
> His grave was clos'd when midnight came again;
> No bell was heard to toll, no funeral pray'r,
> No kindred bow'd, no wife, no children there;—
> Its horrid nature could inspire a dread
> That cut the bonds of custom like a thread.
> The humble church tower higher seem'd to show,
> Illumin'd by the trembling light below;
> The solemn night breeze struck each shiv'ring cheek,
> Religious reverence forbad to speak:
> The starting sexton his short sorrow chid,
> When the earth murmur'd on the coffin lid,
> And falling bones, and sighs of holy dread,
> Sounded a requiem to the silent dead.

The lowly occupation of Mrs. Bloomfield, and the number of her children, which was increased by the issue of a second marriage, deprived her of the means

of giving her son Robert any regular schooling; and nearly all the tuition that he ever received out of her own cottage was from Mr. Rodwell of Ixworth, senior clerk to the magistrates of the Blackburn Hundred, to whom he went for about two or three months to be improved in writing. During the harvest of 1782 or 1783, the village of Honington suffered severely by fire. Four or five double tenemented cottages, a farm-house, and all its appurtenances, were levelled in little more than half an hour. Mrs. Bloomfield's cottage was in the immediate line of the flames, and was saved almost miraculously by the exertions of the neighbours, assisted by Mr. Austin of Sapiston and his men. Mrs. Bloomfield then kept a school at the cottage, and retreated from the distressing scene into the fields, with a clock and the title deeds of the house in her lap, surrounded by a group of infant scholars, in full persuasion that her habitation was feeding the flames; but contrary to her expectation, under its friendly roof where she had long resided, she finished her earthly career, and was buried close to the west end of the church, near her first husband, whose death by the small-pox has been previously noticed. A stone was erected to her memory by the late Duke of Grafton, on which is the following inscription, written by the Rev. R. Fellowes, of Fakenham:

"Beneath this stone are deposited the mortal remains of Elizabeth Glover, who died December 1804. Her maiden name was Manby, and she was twice married: by her first husband, who lies near this spot, she was the mother of six children, the youngest of whom was *Robert Bloomfield,* the pastoral poet. In her household affairs she was a pattern of industry, cleanliness, and every domestic virtue. By her kind,

her meek, and innocent behaviour, she had conciliated the good will of all her neighbours and acquaintance: nor amid the busy cares of time was she ever forgetful of eternity. But her religion was no hypocritical service, no vain form of words; it consisted in loving God and keeping his commandments, as they have been made known to us by Jesus Christ.

Reader,
Go thou and do likewise."

Nathaniel Bloomfield, the brother of Robert, has an elegy on the enclosure of Honington Green, lately reprinted in the "*Suffolk Garland*" by Mr. John Raw of Ipswich, with a note prefixed, by which it appears that the subject of this verse is less than half an acre, but was certainly an ornament to the village, &c. "As a poetical effusion," says Capel Lofft, "it strikes me that this elegy has the tone, simplicity, sweetness, and pleasing melancholy of the ballad. There is a stroke or two of indignant severity, but the general character is such as I have described." A view of the church and green was prefixed to this poem:

The proud city's gay wealthy train,
Who nought but refinements adore,
May wonder to hear me complain
That Honington Green is no more;
But if to the church you e'er went,
If you knew what the village has been,
You will sympathize while I lament
The enclosure of Honington Green.

Still had labour been blest with content,
Still competence happy had been,
Nor indigence utter'd a plaint,
Had avarice spar'd but the Green.

Could there live such an envious man,
Who endur'd not the halcyon scene,
When the infantine peasantry ran,
And roll'd on the daisy-deck'd Green.
While the Green, though but daisies its boast,
Was free as the flowers to the bee;
In all seasons the Green we lov'd most,
Because on the Green we were free.

Tho' the youth of to-day must deplore
The rough mounds that now sadden the scene,
Th' vain stretch of misanthropy's power,
Th' enclosure of Honington Green:
Yet when not a green turf is left free,
When not one odd nook is left wild,
Will the children of Honington be
Less blest than when I was a child?

No! childhood shall find the scene fair;
Then here let me cease my complaint;
Still shall health be inhal'd with the air
Which at Honington cannot be taint;
And tho' age may still talk of the Green,
Of the heath, and free commons of yore,
Youth shall joy in the new-fangled scene,
And boast of that *change* we deplore.

SAPISTON is almost joined to Honington, being only separated from it by a branch of the Ouse. This lordship was anciently made part of the endowment of the priory of Gilbert le Blund, at Ixworth; but was granted to the Codington family by Henry VIII.

This pleasant village has lately risen into notice from being the place where the Suffolk poet, Bloomfield, commenced his humble career as "the Farmer's Boy," a situation that introduced him to the know-

ledge of those rural employments and occupations which he has delineated with so much felicity and correctness. The scenery round the farmhouse here in which he lived, has been greatly injured within the last 40 years, by felling most of the timber. The tall trees near the house are the remaining elms under which the cows were collected for milking in Bloomfield's early years. Sapiston church, like many others in Suffolk, is covered with thatch, and consequently has been many times nearly unroofed by the pilfering of the jackdaws.

Fakenham, about a mile and a half from Honington, is a small village situated in a pleasant valley, watered by a branch of the Ouse, and has furnished the scenes of several of the pieces of Robert Bloomfield. In this village, nearly opposite the church, is a cottage in which the poet's mother was born. A moated eminence in this place is supposed to have been the site of a mansion to which the name of *Brent Hall* has been given, in consequence of the tradition that reports its having been destroyed by fire.

> The moat remains, the dwelling is no more!
> Its name denotes its melancholy fall,
> For village children call the spot Burnt Hall.

Near the inner margin of the moat several decayed trees may be observed, that, according to the poet, once surrounded the mansion. This he describes as the residence of one of the characters introduced into the tale of the *Broken Crutch*, and he has probably taken up his ideas of the ancient hospitality of the place from some tradition current in the neighbourhood.

——— ——— his kitchen smoke
That from the tow'ring rookery upward broke,
Of joyful import to the poor hard by,'
Stream'd a glad sign of hospitality.

Fakenham was anciently divided into Great and Little, but the latter has been mostly imparked with Euston: there are no remains of a church, but there is a sinecure in the gift of the Duke of Grafton.

Fakenham Wood, near Euston Hall, is still, perhaps, the largest in the county, and covers an extent of 314 acres. It was the frequent resort of *Bloomfield's Farmer*, Mr. Austin and his family, on a Sunday afternoon in the summer months; and here the Farmer was wont to indulge his juniors with a stroll to recreate them after the labours of the week; and this was the poet's favourite haunt in his boyish days, whenever his numerous occupations left him sufficient leisure to muse on the beauties of nature. A view of Fakenham from Euston Park, taken near "the darksome copse that whisper'd on the hill," and presenting the "White Park Gate" through which the terror-struck villager fled, who is the subject of the *Fakenham Ghost*, is given in Storer and Greig's Illustrations of Bloomfield, 1806.

Benighted was an ancient dame,
And fearful haste she made
To gain the vale of Fakenham,
And hail its willow shade.

Darker it grew, and darker fears
Came o'er her troubled mind,
When now a short quick step she hears
Come patting close behind.

She turn'd—it stopp'd—nought could she see
Upon the gloomy plain,
But as she strove the sprite to see
She heard the same again.

Still on pat, pat the goblin went
As it had done before—
Her strength and resolution spent,
She fainted at her door.

An ass's foal had lost its dam
Within the spacious park,
And, simple as the playful lamb,
Had followed in the dark.

Hence many a laugh went through the vale,
And some conviction too;
Each thought some other goblin tale,
Perhaps, was just as true.

Euston is situated a mile from Fakenham, but the park extends nearly to that place. This village was formerly the lordship of a family of that name, and afterwards descended to Sir Henry Bennet, who, by King Charles II., was made Secretary of State, and created Lord Arlington, Viscount Thetford, and Earl of Arlington. He built *Euston Hall*, and leaving only one daughter, Isabella, married to Henry Fitz Roy, one of the natural sons of King Charles II. by the Duchess of Cleveland, he was by his father created Earl of Euston and Duke of Grafton, and this was the seat of his great grandson, the late duke. The mansion of *Euston Hall* is large and commodious, of a modern date, built with red brick, and without any gaudy decorations within or without. The house is almost surrounded by trees of uncommon growth, and the

most healthy and luxuriant appearance, and near it glides the river Ouse. Over this stream is thrown a neat and substantial wooden bridge. The scenery about the house and park combines the most delightful assemblage of rural objects that can well be imagined, and is justly celebrated by the author of the *Farmer's Boy*.

> Where noble Grafton spreads his rich domains
> Round Euston's water'd vale and sloping plains;
> Where woods and groves in solemn grandeur rise,
> Where the kite brooding unmolested flies;
> The woodcock, and the painted pheasant race,
> And skulking foxes, destin'd for the chase.

The estate of Euston is not less than between 30 and 40 miles in circumference, including a number of villages and hamlets.

On an elevated situation in *Euston Park* stands the temple: this elegant structure was designed for a banqueting house, and was built by the celebrated Kent, under the auspices of the late duke, who laid the first stone himself in the year 1746. It consists of an upper and lower apartment, and is in the Grecian style of architecture. It forms a pleasing object from many points of view in the neighbourhood of Euston, and commands a wide range of prospect. Bloomfield, in his *Autumn*, thus eulogizes this place and its late noble proprietor.

> Bereft of song, and ever cheering green,
> The soft endearments of the summer scene,
> New harmony pervades the solemn wood,
> Dear to the soul, and healthful to the blood;
> For bold exertion follows on the sound
> Of distant sportsmen and the chiding hound;

First heard from kennel bursting, mad with joy,
Where smiling EUSTON boasts her good FITZROY!
Lord of pure alms and gifts that wide extend,
The farmer's patron and the poor man's friend;
Whose mansion glitters with the eastern ray,
Whose elevated temple points the way
O'er slopes and lawns, the park's extensive pride,
To where the victims of the chase reside.

Returning towards the high road from Bury, we pass BARDWELL. This place is said to have given name to the family of Berdwelle, who resided here as early as the time of William the Conqueror. Sir William Berdwell, a celebrated soldier, whose effigies in painted glass still remain in the north window of the church, died in possession of this manor in the year 1434.

Having rejoined the road at Ixworth, on the right, we observe Langham and Stowlangtoft.

LANGHAM. Here is the seat of Sir Patrick Blake, whose father was created a baronet in 1772.

STOWLANGTOFT. The church here, a handsome building, was erected about 1370, by Robert Dacy, esq. or by one of the Davy family, that afterwards took the name of Ashfield. It stands within a double trenched camp; and in a field about half a mile from it was found, in 1764, a pot full of Roman coins of the lower empire. In a farm called Red Castle, in the adjoining parish of Pakenham, a fine tesselated pavement was discovered. At Stowlangtoft resided Sir Simon D'Ewes, one of the most learned and indefatigable antiquarians of the 17th century. Part of his mansion-house, called *Stow Hall*, was pulled down several years ago; but the remains,

in 1783, received great additional improvements from Sir Walter Rawlinson, who inherited it from his father Sir Thomas, Lord Mayor of London in 1754, by whom the whole parish was purchased in 1760. The chancel of the church here contains a fine monument to the memory of Sir Simon D'Ewes, knt. About a mile to the south of this place is

NORTON. Here is *Little Law*, or *Little Loe Hall*, and in this parish Henry VIII. is said to have been induced by a credulous kind of avarice to dig for gold, but without success. The vestiges of these excavations were visible only a few years ago.

HUNSTON, about half a mile to the east of Norton, was a parcel of the possessions of *Ixworth Priory*. Here is Hunston Hall.

Proceeding northward from Stowlangtoft, we pass *Little Ashfield*, or *Badwell Ash*. Here is the manor of Shackerland. This is an obscure village, but remarkable for being the birthplace of the late Lord Thurlow, and his brother the late Bishop of Durham. Their father, the Rev. Thomas Thurlow, vicar of this parish, married Miss Elizabeth Smith, whose family had long resided here at a seat called The Lee, and died in 1762. Edward, their eldest son, was born 1735. He was educated under the auspices of his parent, and at a proper age removed to Caius College, Cambridge, but did not obtain a degree. On leaving the university, he entered himself of the Inner Temple, was called to the bar, and remained unemployed and unknown until his abilities appeared in the Douglas cause. He now attained to such professional distinction, that he was appointed solicitor general in 1770, attorney general the following year, and lord high chancellor in 1778; on which

occasion he was elevated to the peerage by the title of Baron Thurlow of Ashfield. In April 1783, he resigned the seals, which were again delivered to him in December the same year. In 1786 he obtained the lucrative appointment of teller of the exchequer, and was afterwards created Baron Thurlow of Thurlow. But the most remarkable epoch of his life was that of his majesty's illness in 1788, 1789. His attachment to the monarch then shone forth conspicuously; and his speeches on the regency question will remain a record of his unshaken regard to the king and constitution. That declaration which may be said to have electrified the house of peers, "when I forsake my king in the hour of his distress, may my God forsake me!" is worthy of being engraven upon his tomb. In 1793, disapproving the course adopted by the ministry of that day, he again resigned his high office, and passed the remainder of his life in dignified retirement. The talents of Lord Thurlow, even out of the line of his profession, were so splendid, that Dr. Johnson himself appears to have been afraid of him. "I would prepare myself," said the great lexicographer, "for no man in England but Lord Thurlow. When I am about to meet him I should wish to know a day before." His lordship, who was never married, died at Brighton, Sept. 12, 1806. Another anecdote may be added, illustrative of the firmness of his character. In consequence of his being counsel for Mr. Douglas, he received a challenge from Mr. Andrew Stuart, who had been one of the guardians of the Duke of Hamilton. The meeting took place in Kensington gardens, and his antagonist remarked, that Mr. Thurlow advanced and stood up to him like an elephant.

WALSHAM LE WILLOWS is about a mile and a half to the north-east of this place. Gilbert le Blund had a lordship here in the Conqueror's time, which he probably made part of his endowment of Ixworth Priory, as at the dissolution, a manor in Walsham and the rectory and lands called East House Lands, were granted as parcels of the possessions of that priory to Richard and Elizabeth Codington. Another manor in Walsham belonged to William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, in the reign of Henry VI.; but this was afterwards granted by Henry VIII. to George, Earl of Shrewsbury. We now turn to the left, and rejoin the high road at Stanton.

STANTON. This place consists of two parishes, St. John and All Saints, and is situated on the road from Ixworth to Botesdale. Here is a fair yearly on the first day of May and the last day of June. The two rectories were consolidated in the year 1457.

HEPWORTH is a mile from Stanton, but has nothing remarkable to detain us.

A road from this place leads to MARKET WESTON, about a mile to the left of the road. This was anciently the lordship of Hugh Hovel; from him it passed to the Tyrrels, and afterwards to the Thrustons, who had their residence here.

CONEY WESTON is about a mile north-west of Market Weston, and was formerly the lordship of the abbot of Bury.

BARNINGHAM, which we pass in our way to rejoin the road, is situated to the southward of the two Westons. This was formerly the lordship of John de Mountfort in the reign of Edward I. The family of the Sheltons long resided here; from them the Duke

of Grafton purchased the house and estate in or near this parish, called Barningham park.

Having rejoined the road at Hepworth, we notice a few villages lying to our left; the principal of these are Hopton, Thelnetham, and Hinderclay.

Hopton. This manor belonged to the abbot of Bury, but afterwards came to the Cavendish family.

Thelnetham, corruptly called Feltham, was formerly the lordship and demesne of John de Thelnetham.

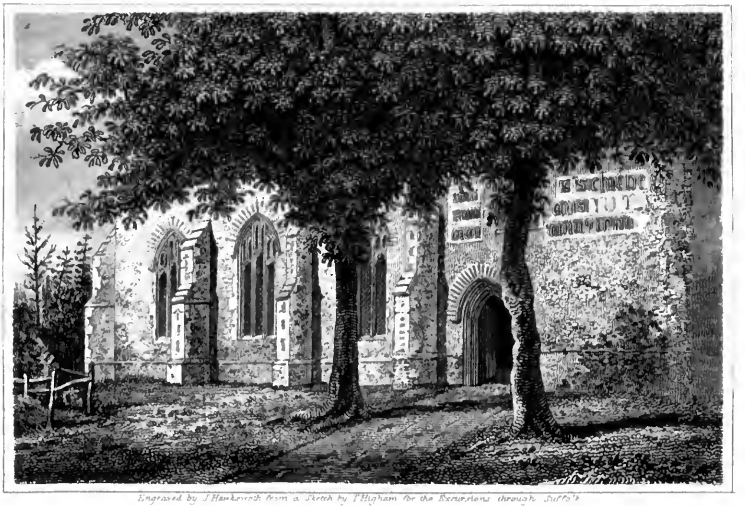
Hinderclay was another lordship belonging to the abbot of Bury, but afterwards devolved to Lord Chief Justice Holt.

We now proceed to Rickenhall, or Rickingale inferior, another manor transferred to Lord Chief Justice Holt by Sir Edward Bacon.

Rickinghall superior lies on the opposite side of the road. Here is the manor of Facons Hall. About a mile and a half from this place is

Gislingham. The manor called Swatsal Hall is situated in this parish: the hall was rebuilt by Charles Bedingfield, esq.

Proceeding about a mile from Rickenhall Inferior, we arrive at Botesdale, an abbreviation of Botulph's Dale, a market town, but ill built and small, containing only 69 houses, and 575 inhabitants. It receives its name from a chapel dedicated to St. Botulph, the mother church of which is Redgrave, about two miles distant. This chapel having been for many years disused, has, by means of the subscriptions of the inhabitants and the neighbouring gentry, been substantially repaired, and fitted up for divine service; besides which a provision has been made for a salary to the master of the free grammar school, for a sermon



Engraved by J Hawksworth from a Sketch by T Higham for the Excursions through Suffolk

BOTESDALE CHAPEL,

SUFFOLK.

in his judicial robes, with the figures of Justice and Mercy on either side of him. Two Corinthian columns support the alcove under which he is seated. Underneath is the following inscription, from the pen of the celebrated Dr. Halley:

M. S.
D. Johannis Holt, Equitis Aur.
Totius Angliæ in Banco Regis
per 21 annos continuos
Capitalis Justitiarii;
Gulielmo Regi, Annæque Reginæ,
Consiliarii perpetui;
Libertatis ac Legum Anglicarum
Assertoris, Vindicis, Custodis
Vigilis, Acris et Intrepidi.
Rolandus Frater unicus et Hæres
Optimo de semerito
Posuit.
Die Martis Vto 1709, sublatus est
ex Oculis nostris.
Natus 30 Decembris, Anno 1640.

Among the memorabilia of Redgrave it may be observed, that Thomas Wolsey, afterwards the famous cardinal and archbishop of York, was instituted to this rectory, June 8, 1506, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Bury.

About a mile from Botesdale, on the right of the road, is

Burgate. This was formerly the manor of Sir William de Burgate, who resided in this parish, and was interred beneath a good tomb in the chancel.

Proceeding along the high road towards Sturston, on our left, we observe the villages of Wortham and Palgrave.

Wortham. Here is Wortham Hall, that formerly belonged to the Jenney family.

Palgrave. This lordship anciently belonged to the abbey of Bury; and in the west part of the parish was a chapel of St. John Baptist, where five secular priests under the abbot's jurisdiction resided, and said mass every day. In the porch of the church, in this village, is interred, with others of his family, Thomas Martin, better known by the familiar appellation of *honest Tom Martin of Palgrave.*

Thomas Martin, F. A. S. an antiquary and author of the History of Thetford, was born March 8, 1696-7, at the school-house in St. Mary's, of which parish his father, the Rev. William Martin, was many years rector. Thomas was the seventh of nine children, and received his education in the grammar-school of his native place. He was articled to his brother, who was an attorney. He married early, when the care of a large family engaged his attention; and though, on a second marriage with the widow of Peter Le Neve, he came into possession of considerable property, with a large collection of antiquities, valuable manuscripts, prints, books, &c. yet his want of attention to frugality and economy constantly kept him in an embarrassed state, and dying poor, March 7, 1771, he was interred, as before said, in the church porch at Palgrave.

Thrandiston is at a short distance from the road on the right. Here is Thrandiston Hall. At the distance of five miles from Botesdale, we arrive at Sturston, where we conclude our present excursion.

Sturston. The hall was in the possession of the Castletons; but the manor of Faucons here, and most of the village, were church lands before the re-

formation. The middle part of the hall was built by Bishop Nix; the two wings are of later date. There was an oratory on the north side of the chancel, dedicated to St. Katharine.

EXCURSION IV.

From Ipswich, through Copdock and Bentley, to Stratford Bridge.

Ipswich is generally supposed to have derived its name from its being seated where the fresh river *Gippen*, or *Gipping*, empties itself into the Orwell. It is spelt in Domesday Book *Gyppeswid*, *Gyppeswiz*, *Gyppewic*; afterwards by dropping the guttural, it was written *Yppeswyche*, and then as our spelling improved, by leaving out the superfluous letters, Ipswich. This ancient, well built, populous town forms part of a circle round the bend of the river Orwell.

Being a place of consequence before the Norman conquest, it was twice plundered by the Danes in the years 991 and 1000, who demolished the ditch, and the ramparts that surrounded the town, and forced the inhabitants to pay 10,000*l.* a very large sum in those days. Ipswich, in the Conqueror's time, contained nine parish churches, which afterwards increased to 21, though at present only 12 remain. The fortifications round the town were renewed and repaired in the

fifth year of King John. The town had formerly four gates, named from their situation after the four principal points of the compass; and from these gates were named the four leets, or wards, into which the place was divided. A fifth gate is mentioned, called the *Lose Gate*, as standing on the bank of the Orwell, on the spot where once was a ford over that river. Though the rampart raised in the time of King John has in many places been broken through, and in others entirely levelled, considerable remains of it still exist, and it may be easily traced from the Bowling-green Garden, or Grey Friars Walk, to St. Matthew's-street; and from Bull Gate to North Gate-street, and thence to the end of Cross Keys-street, it is almost entire. From these remains it is apparent that the whole of the parishes of St. Austin, St. Clement, and St. Helen, with great part of St. Margaret and St. Matthew's, were not included within the gates, but were called the suburbs of Ipswich in old writings. The castle that stood in Ipswich, in a part still called the Castle Hills, previously to the disaffection of one of the Bigods, was demolished by Henry II., and never since rebuilt. The town had charters and a mint as early as the reign of King John; but its last charter was obtained from Charles II. It is incorporated in the name of two bailiffs, a recorder, twelve portmen, the bailiffs being two of them; a town clerk, two chamberlains, two coroners, and 24 common council men. The bailiffs and four of the portmen are justices of the peace. Camden called Ipswich "the eye of this county."

Ipswich enjoys several privileges peculiar to itself, such as passing fines and recoveries, trying causes criminal and civil, and even crown causes. The town

regulates the assize of bread, beer, &c.; no freeman can be obliged against his consent to serve on juries out of the town, or bear any office for the king, sheriffs for the county excepted; nor are they obliged to pay any tithes or duties in any other part of the kingdom, having established this point in a trial with the city of London: they are entitled to all waifs, strays, and goods cast on shore within their admiralty jurisdiction, which extends to the Essex coast, beyond Harwich, and on both sides the Suffolk coast. The quay and custom-house here are most conveniently seated.

No place, it has been observed, is so well calculated for the Greenland trade as Ipswich; as besides the conveniency for boiling the blubber, and erecting storehouses, the same wind that carries the vessels out of the harbour will convey them to Greenland.

Ipswich has sent two members to parliament since the 25th year of Henry VI. The right of election is in the bailiffs, portmen, common council men, and freemen at large, not receiving alms. The number of voters is between six and seven hundred, and the returning officers are the two bailiffs.

The streets of Ipswich are rather narrow and irregular, and consequently have not the advantageous appearance of those that run in straight lines, though at present they are well paved, &c. At the corners of many of these, various images, curiously carved, yet remain, and a great number of the houses are adorned in a similar manner, almost to profusion. Ipswich contains many good buildings; several of these, even in the heart of the place, like Norwich, possess convenient gardens, which contribute to its salubrity and the cheerfulness of its situation. In Domesday Book

the following churches are mentioned as standing in Ipswich and its liberties: the Holy Trinity, St. Austin, St. Michael, St. Mary, St. Botolph (or Whitton church), St. Laurence, St. Peter, St. Stephen, and Thurleston. Of these the three former are demolished and not rebuilt. They were probably destroyed by the tempest recorded by Stowe, as occurring on the night of New Year's day 1287, "when, as well through the vehemence of the wind, as the violence of the sea, many churches were overthrown and destroyed, not only at Yarmouth, Dunwich, and Ipswich, but in divers other places in England."

The 12 churches that remain out of the 21 are those of St. Clement, St. Helen, St. Laurence, St. Margaret, St. Mary at Elms, St. Mary at Kay, St. Mary at Stoke, St. Mary at Tower, St. Matthew, St. Nicholas, St. Peter, St. Stephen; and within the liberty of the borough those of Thurleston, Whitton, and Westerfield. In St. Clement's church is interred Thomas Eldred, who accompanied Cavendish in his circumnavigation of the globe, with an inscription expressing that he went out of Plymouth the 2d of July, 1556, and arrived there again on the 9th of September, 1558.

In this parish is the hamlet of Wykes, given by King Richard to John Oxenford, bishop of Norwich, for which the town was allowed to deduct from the fee farm rent the sum of 10*l.* per annum, which it had been accustomed to pay to that prelate. The hamlet and manor, hence called *Wykes Bishop*, belonged to the bishops of Norwich till 1535, when both were surrendered to Henry VIII., who, in 1545, granted them to Sir John Jermie, knt. Whilst the manor was in possession of the bishops, they frequently used to reside at their house

situated on the south side of the road, leading from Bishop's Hill towards Nacton, where is now a square field, which appears formerly to have been surrounded by a moat. The church of Wykes is sometimes mentioned in old writings, but it is not known where it stood, and might possibly be no more than a chapel for the use of the bishop and his household. In this parish is part of the hamlet of *Wykes Ufford*, so called from the Earls of Suffolk of that name. The Willoughbys afterwards possessed it by descent from Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. In the time of Queen Elizabeth, it was held by Sir John Brewes, then by Sir Edmund Withipol, and has ever since gone with the Christ church estate, being now vested in the Rev. Charles Fonnereau.

Beyond St. Clement's church, and between the two hamlets, stood St. James's chapel, now wholly demolished, and is thought to have belonged to St. James's Hospital, between which and the leperous house of St. Mary Magdalen some connexion is supposed to have existed: this house, it is said, stood somewhere opposite to St. Helen's church; however, when it was dissolved by Henry VIII. its revenues were annexed to the rectory of St. Helen's, and with them probably those of St. James's Hospital.

St. Helen's, though formerly appropriated to the hospital of St. James or St. Mary Magdalen, has been instituted into a rectory ever since the Reformation. In a field almost opposite to Caldwell Hall, now called Cold Hall, on the south of the road leading to Kesgrave, stood the church of St. John Baptist, in Caldwell, of which there are no remains. It was impropriated to Trinity priory, and granted with that house

to Sir Thomas Pope. In this parish also, at the south-west corner of Rosemary-lane, Brook-street, was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Edmund a Pountney, and impropriated to St. Peter's priory; but being, like St. Helen's, in the patronage of the Bishop of Norwich, they were both given to the same incumbent till they were united.

St. Lawrence is said in Domesday to have possessed twelve acres of land. This church was given to Trinity priory, to which it was impropriated; but as there had for many years been no prædial tithes belonging to it, there was no grant of the impropriation at the dissolution. The present edifice was begun by John Bottold, who died in 1431, and was interred here, with this inscription, which, as Weaver informs us, was discovered on removing a pew in this church:

> Subjacet hoc lapide *John Bottold* vir probus ipse,
> Istius ecclesiæ primus inceptor fuit iste,
> Cujus animæ, Domine, miserere tu bone Christe.
> Obiit MCCCCXXXI. Litera Dominicalis G.

The chancel was built by John Baldwyn, draper, who died in 1449, and his name is in the stone-work under the east window, now plastered over. About that time several legacies were left towards the erection of the steeple. In 1514, Edward Daundy, then one of the representatives of this borough in parliament, founded a chauntry in this church, for a secular priest to officiate at the altar of St. Thomas, in behalf of himself and his relations, among whom he reckoned Thomas Wolsey, then dean of Lincoln, and his parents, Robert and Jane Wolsey, deceased. This Mr. Daundy was one of the most respectable men of the town in his

time: all his daughters married gentlemen of good fortune, and the wife of lord-keeper Bacon was the issue of one of them.

The Rev. Richard Canning, M. A. a gentleman of distinguished character and abilities, editor of the second edition of Kirby's Suffolk Traveller, and compiler of the account of the Ipswich charities, was forty years minister of the church of St. Laurence, and died June 9, 1775.

St. Margaret's was impropriated to the priory of the Holy Trinity. Trinity church, after which this house is supposed to have been named, stood near St. Margaret's churchyard, and is mentioned in Domesday as being endowed with 26 acres of land in the time of the Conqueror. The priory was founded, and chiefly endowed before the year 1177, by Norman Gastrode, for black canons of the order of St. Austin, and the founder became one of its first inhabitants. King Henry II. granted the prior and convent a fair on Holyrood day, September 14, to continue three days. Not long after the foundation of the monastery, the church and offices were consumed by fire; but they were rebuilt by John of Oxford, bishop of Norwich, on which Richard I. gave the patronage of the priory to him and his successors. The grant of the fair was afterwards confirmed by King John, who moreover granted to the priory all the lands and rents "formerly belonging" to the churches of St. Michael and St. Saviour in Ipswich. From this expression it may be inferred that both these churches were even then dilapidated; at present their site is unknown, but a vague tradition reports that the latter stood behind St.

Mary Elms, and that the former, which is said in Domesday to have possessed eight acres of land, was situated near the church of St. Nicholas. At the suppression, 26 Henry VIII. the possessions of Trinity priory were valued at 88*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* per annum, and in the 36th year of the same reign were granted to Sir Thomas Pope. The strong foundation of the steeple of Trinity church was about fifty years ago undermined and blown up with gunpowder.

St. Margaret's is not mentioned in Domesday, whence it is natural to infer that it was not then in existence; but as the church of the Holy Trinity was appropriated to the use of the prior and convent, this edifice was most probably erected for the parishioners.

In this parish, on the site of Trinity priory, a spacious brick mansion, called *Christ Church*, was erected, and surrounded with a pale, by Sir Edmund Withipol, whose only child was married to Leicester, Lord Viscount Hereford. His successor sold the estate to Claude Fonnereau, esq. in whose descendant, the Rev. Mr. Fonnereau, it is at present vested. That gentleman, with a liberality not very common, allows free access to this park, which is a most agreeable promenade, to the inhabitants of the town.

St. Mary at Elms, is one of the four churches dedicated to that saint, now standing in Ipswich, though in Domesday book only one is mentioned, which is conjectured to be St. Mary at Tower. St. Mary at Elms probably succeeded the dilapidated church of St. Saviour, and is thought to have been built on the site of that edifice. It was given to Trinity priory by Alan, the son of Edgar Aleto, and his

son, Richard; but there seems to have been no grant of the impropriation since the dissolution of that monastery.

Opposite to the church of St. Mary at Elms is an alms-house for twelve poor women, erected about fifty years ago, in pursuance of the will of Mrs. Ann Smyth, who left 5000*l.* for this charitable purpose.

St. Mary at Kay was impropriated to the priory of St. Peter, and all the tithes belonged to it were granted, 7 Edward VI. to Webb and Breton. The church must have been built since 1448, when Richard Gowty was a considerable benefactor to it; for by his will made in that year, he ordered his body to be interred in the churchyard of St. Mary at the Kay; and gave Calyon stone for the whole new church, which was to be erected in that churchyard.

In this parish, northward of the church, was a house of black friars, Dominicans, commonly called preachers, who settled here in the latter end of the reign of Henry III. The extensive site of this convent was granted, 33 Henry VIII. to William Sabyn, but afterwards purchased by the corporation, with the design of founding in it a hospital for the relief and maintenance of aged persons and children, for the curing of the sick poor, and for the employment of the vicious and idle. It was confirmed to them by charter in 1572, by the appellation of Christ's Hospital, and was at first supported by annual subscriptions; but afterwards the corporation made an order that every freeman, on being admitted to his freedom, should pay a certain sum towards its support.

Part of this edifice is now occupied as a hospital for poor boys, in which they are maintained, clothed, and

educated. Their number in 1689, as Kirby informs us, was only twelve; but about the middle of last century there were sometimes double that number, in consequence of a donation of 60*l.* per annum left by the will of Nicholas Philips, esq. a portman of this town, "towards the learning and teaching poor children, providing books, ink, paper, and convenient apparel, binding them out apprentices, and for the providing of flax, hemp, wool, or such other needful things, as well for the setting such poor children to work as for the help of them; and also for the providing bedding convenient and necessary for such children, and also a convenient house for such children to be taught in."

Another portion of the monastery was till within these few years used as a hall, in which the quarter sessions for the Ipswich division were held, and a Bridewell for offenders within the limits of the corporation. Here is also a spacious room, now the town library, the keys of which are kept by the bailiffs and the master of the grammar-school, and out of which every freeman has a right to take any of the books on giving a proper receipt.

The cloisters are still entire, and in the spacious refectory on the south side is now held the *Free Grammar School*. It was not kept here till the time of James I. though the town had a grammar school as early as 1477, when it was under the direction of the Bishop of Norwich. In 1482 Richard Felaw, who had been eight times bailiff, and twice member of parliament for Ipswich, gave the produce of some lands and houses to this institution, and also a house for the master's residence; but these possessions were alienated

20 Henry VIII. at the request of Cardinal Wolsey, and given to his new college in this town. His short-lived institution was evidently the cause of the charter afterwards granted by King Henry for the present foundation. This charter was renewed and confirmed by Queen Elizabeth, who authorised the corporation to deduct annually from the fee-farm payable by this borough the sum of 24*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for the master's salary, and 14*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for that of the usher, to which some additions have since been made. The nomination of both is vested in the corporation, which is empowered to make such rules as it may think fit for the regulation and government of the school. In 1598 Mr. William Smart, one of the portmen of Ipswich, conveyed a farm at Wiverstone, then of the clear yearly value of 19*l.* to Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, for the maintenance of one fellow and two scholars from this school, who are to be called after his name. In 1601 Mr. Ralph Scrivener, who married Mr. Smart's widow, at her request settled on the same college an annuity of 21*l.* for the erection of four new scholarships, to be filled out of the free grammar school at Ipswich.

Another considerable part of the buildings once belonging to the monastery of the Black Friars is now occupied by the poor on Tooley's foundation. This benevolent institution, established in 1551 by Mr. Henry Tooley, a portman of Ipswich, and confirmed by a charter of Philip and Mary, was originally intended for the relief of 10 poor persons only, who were unfeignedly lame by reason of the king's wars, or otherwise, or such as could not procure a subsistence; the numbers, however, have since been considerably increased.

On the quay, which borders the Orwell, stands the *Custom House* of this port, a commodious brick building; in an unfrequented apartment contiguous to which is still preserved the ducking-stool, a venerable relic of ancient customs.

A malt-kiln on the quay, formerly known by the name of the Angel, was in ancient times a house of Cistertian monks. From the remains it appears to have been about 81 feet by 21.

St. Mary at Stoke was given, as we are informed in the Domesday survey, by King Edgar to the prior and convent of Ely. This grant, made about 970, was executed with great solemnity, as appears from the words of the deed itself: *Ego* Eadgarus, &c. *Basilevs non clam in angulo, sed palam, sub dio subscripsi;* and it was attested by his queen, St. Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury, and many of the principal officers and nobles. The gift included the hamlet, which takes in part of the parish of Sproughton, together with the advowson of the rectory and the manor of Stoke Hall, or, as it is at present called, Stoke Park. It is now vested in the dean and chapter of Ely.

In this parish is the manor of Godlesford, now denominated Gusford Hall, which, with its appurtenances in Godlesford, Belsted Parva and Wherstead, was granted 32 Henry VIII. to Sir John Ravensworth, as parcel of the possessions of the priory of Canon's Leigh, Devonshire. In a perambulation in 26 Edward III. this house is described as belonging to Robert Andrews, whose family seems to have been long settled here, for in 13 Henry VIII. it is denominated "the gate some-time of old Robert Andrews, now of Sir Andrews Windsor," who took his christian name

from that family, and was afterwards created Lord Windsor.

St. Mary at Tower was given by Norman, the son of Eadnorth, to Trinity priory. The tower of this church, which was blown down in the great storm, February 18, 1661, was adorned with a handsome spire; and Mr. William Edgar, of Ipswich, left by will 200*l.* towards erecting another; but owing to some misunderstanding among the persons entrusted with the management of this business, the money was thrown into chancery, and the object of the testator was never carried into execution.

In Upper Brook-street, in this parish, is the house of the Archdeacon of Suffolk, sometimes called the *Archdeacon's Place*, or *Palace*. The original edifice, of which the outer wall and gates seem to have formed a part, was erected in 1471, by William Pykenham, Archdeacon of Suffolk, and principal official, or Chancellor of Norwich, the initials of whose name are still upon the gateway.

St. Matthew's has always been termed a rectory, and the incumbent is instituted into it as such; but the great tithes, formerly impropriated to St. Peter's priory, were granted, 7 Edward VI. to Webb and Breton, and now belong to the family of Fonnereau. The crown did not obtain the advowson by the dissolution of the priory, having always presented anterior to that event

This parish once contained four churches or chapels, long since demolished or disused: these were, All Saints, St. George's, St. Mildred's, and St. Mary's. The site of All Saints cannot now be ascertained; but so much is known, that it was consolidated with St. Matthew's before 1383, when Thomas Moonie was

instituted into that church, with the chapel of All Saints annexed.

St. George's Chapel was used for divine service so late as the middle of the sixteenth century, when Mr. Bilney, who suffered martyrdom, was there apprehended as he was preaching in favour of the Reformation. Considerable remains of this edifice are yet left, but it is now converted into a barn.

St. Mildred's church, once parochial, and impropriated to St. Peter's priory, is one of the most ancient buildings in Ipswich. The principal part of this has lately been taken down. Part of it had been converted into a *Town-Hall*, under which were three rooms used as warehouses. Contiguous to the hall was a spacious council-chamber, below which were the kitchens formerly used at the feasts of the merchant's and other guilds, since occupied as workshops, and supposed to have been rebuilt, or thoroughly repaired, on the restoration of Charles II. We are informed by Grose, that some years ago a piece of the plastering in the middle of the front of this edifice, near the top, fell down, and discovered a stone, on which were quartered the arms of England and France, much defaced by time. A board of the same shape, with a painting of the arms, was put over it at the private expense of one of the portmen. The writer just quoted says, that the brick building at the end of the hall, in the upper part of which the records of the corporation were kept, appeared to have been erected about the year 1449. The prior and convent of the Holy Trinity, in 1393, granted to the burgesses of Ipswich a piece of ground in the parish of St. Mildred, twenty-four feet long, and eighteen wide, the north end abutting on the

Cornhill. On this ground, as we are told, the edifice in question was erected; and there is an order made at a great court, 26 Henry VI. that all the profits of escheator and justice of the peace should be applied towards the expense of the building at the end of the hall of pleas. If this information be correct, the structure in question must be one of the oldest brick buildings in the kingdom, as the date assigned to its erection is earlier by some years than the period usually considered as the æra of the introduction of that material.

St. Mary's Chapel, commonly called our Lady of Grace, is said to have stood at the north-west corner of the lane without the west gate, which to this day goes by the name of *Lady-lane*, opposite to the George Inn. This chapel was very famous for an image of the Blessed Virgin, which, in Catholic times, had numerous visitors, and to which, in old wills, many pilgrimages were ordered to be made. In the third part of the homily against peril of idolatry, this image is mentioned, together with our Lady of Walsingham, and our Lady of Wilsdon, by the style of *Our Lady of Ipswich*. This venerated image, however, shared the fate of other relics of superstition of the same kind, being conveyed to London, and there publicly burned. The site of the chapel is now covered with buildings.

The alms-houses in Lady-lane were erected by Mr. Daundy, who by his will, bearing date 1515, gave wood to each of his alms-houses, "beside our Lady of Grace."

The church of *St. Nicholas* was impropriated to St. Peter's priory, on the dissolution of which the impropriation was granted to Webb and Breton. It is not

mentioned in Domesday, and might probably have been erected to supply the place of the dilapidated church of St. Michael, which is said in that record to have had eight acres of land, and is conjectured to have stood not far from the spot occupied by this edifice.

In this parish, on the south side of the passage leading from St. Nicholas'-street to the churchyard, stands the house in which tradition reports that Cardinal Wolsey was born. The front has been rebuilt, but the back and out-houses, says Mr. Gough, have marks of antiquity. The Cardinal's father, in his will, bequeathed 6*s.* 8*d.* to the high altar of St. Nicholas, and forty shillings to the painting of the archangel there.

Westward of the church of St. Nicholas, and on the bank of the Gipping, stood a convent of Franciscan Grey Friars Minors, founded in the reign of Edward I. by Lord Tibetot, or Tiptot, of Nettlestead, who, with many of his family, was buried in the church belonging to this house. A small portion of this edifice, containing some of the lower range of windows, and part of the exterior wall, are yet to be seen in a gardener's ground, which now occupies its site.

Another convent of White Friars Carmelites stood partly in this parish, and partly in that of St. Lawrence. It was founded about the year 1279, by Sir Thomas Loudham, and other benefactors; and at the dissolution was granted to John Eger. It was of considerable extent, reaching from St. Nicholas'-street to St. Stephen's lane. Part of it was standing in the early part of the last century, and served as a gaol for the county, before the latter agreed with the corporation for the common use of their gaol by the west gate.

Of this house, which produced many persons eminent for their learning, no remains are now left.

St. Peter's had, as appears from Domesday book, large possessions in the time of Edward the Confessor. It was afterwards impropriated to the priory of St. Peter and St. Paul, which stood contiguous to the churchyard, and was founded in the reign of Henry II. by Thomas Lacy, and Alice his wife, for Black Canons of the order of St. Augustine. This house was suppressed in 1527, by Cardinal Wolsey, who, willing to bestow some marks of regard on the place of his nativity, as well as desirous of erecting there a lasting monument of his greatness, resolved to build and endow a college and grammar-school, to serve as a nursery for his new college at Oxford. For this purpose, being then in the meridian of his prosperity, he obtained bulls from the Pope for the suppression, and letters patent from the King for the site and estate of the priory of St. Peter and St. Paul, where, in the 20th Henry VIII. he founded a college, dedicated to the honour of the Blessed Virgin, consisting of a dean, 12 secular canons, eight clerks, and eight choristers, together with a grammar-school: and for its farther endowment he procured part of the possessions of the late monasteries of Snape, Dodnash, Wike, Harkesley, Tiptree, Romborough, Felixtow, Bromehill, Blythburgh, and Montjoy. The first stone was laid with great solemnity, by the Bishop of Lincoln, on which occasion a grand procession was made through the town, from the college to the church of Our Lady. But this noble foundation was scarcely completed before the disgrace of the Cardinal, when, in 23 Henry VIII. this building, with its site, containing by

estimation six acres, was granted to Thomas Alverde; and in 9 James I. to Richard Percival and Edmund Duffield.

No part of this college now remains except the gate, which stands adjoining to the east side of St. Peter's churchyard, the rest having been long demolished to the very foundations. In the second edition of *Kirby's Suffolk Traveller*, published in 1764, we are informed that the first stone was not long before found in two pieces, worked up in a common wall in Woulform's-lane, with a Latin inscription to this effect: "In the year of Christ 1528, and the 20th of Henry VIII. king of England, on the 15th of June, laid by John bishop of Lincoln." This was John Longland, who likewise laid the first stone of Wolsey's college at Oxford.

This gate, with the exception of a square stone tablet, on which are carved the arms of King Henry VIII. is entirely of brick, worked into niches, wreathed pinnacles and chimnies, flowers, and other decorations, according to the fashion of that time. It is supposed to have been the great or chief gate; for as the Cardinal, by setting the king's arms over a college of his own foundation, meant to flatter that monarch, it is not probable that he would put them over any other than the principal entrance. If this conjecture be correct, the specimen but ill agrees with the character given of the college by the writer of Wolsey's secret history, who says, that it was a sumptuous building: and, indeed, the Cardinal himself, in an exhortatory Latin preface to Lilly's Grammar, then lately published, styles it "no ways inelegant." This gate now leads to a private house, in the apartments of which are some coats of arms.

In St. Peter's parish stood the mansion granted in the reign of Edward VI. to the Bishop of Norwich, by the appellation of *Lord Curson's House*. It was afterwards called the King's Hospital, having been applied to that purpose for seamen during the Dutch wars. The strong and stately brick porch belonging to this edifice was demolished in 1760; it was subsequently known as the Elephant and Castle, and is now a malt-kiln. By a statute enacted 26 Henry VIII. Ipswich was appointed for the seat of a suffragan bishop; and the common notion is, that this house was intended for his residence. Thomas Manning, prior of Butley, consecrated by Archbishop Cranmer, in 1525, was the first and last suffragan bishop of Ipswich, after whose decease, as it is supposed, this mansion was granted to the Bishop of Norwich.

In the suburbs beyond the river stood the church of St. Austin, near the green of the same name. It is often called a chapel; but in the time of the Conqueror it possessed eleven acres of land, and procurations were paid for it by the prior of St. Peter's, so that it was parochial, and probably impropriated to that priory. It was in use in 1482. All the houses and land on the south side of the Orwell, at present forming part of St. Peter's parish, are supposed to have once belonged to that of St. Austin. Not far from this church, and probably opposite to it, stood St. Leonard's Hospital, now a farm-house belonging to Christ's Hospital in this town.

St. Stephen's is a rectory, the presentation to which devolved, with the Christ-church estate, to the family of Fonnereau. An Unitarian chapel, in St. Nicholas'-street, is adorned about the pulpit with some elegant

carving. The Anabaptists have a chapel at Stoke; and a handsome stone bridge connects the town of Ipswich with its suburb, Stoke hamlet.

In Brook-street, in this parish, was a mansion belonging to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, on the spot where now stands the *Coach and Horses inn.* Some remains of an older building may still be traced on the walls forming the back part of the present house.

The *Tankard public-house,* next door to the Coach and Horses, formed part of the residence of Sir Anthony Wingfield, knight of the garter, vice-chamberlain, privy-counsellor, and one of the executors of Henry VIII. Some curious remains of the decorations of this ancient edifice still exist, particularly in a room on the ground-floor, the oak wainscot of which, curiously carved in festoons of flowers, formerly gilt, is now painted blue and white. Here the arms of Wingfield are yet to be seen; the ceiling is of groined work; and over the fire-place is a basso-relievo in plaster, coloured, which uninterrupted tradition referred, till a few years since, to the battle of Bosworth. This interpretation is adopted by Mr. Gough, who describes it as exhibiting "Leicester-town in one corner; several warriors in the middle; Sir Charles William Brandon, who is supposed to have lived here, father to Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk, and standard-bearer to the Earl of Richmond, lies dead by his horse, and on the other side the standard: at a distance seems to be the earl, with the crown placed on his head by Sir William Stanley; in another is Leicester-abbey, the abbot coming out of the porch to compliment the earl." But as an instance how far conjecture may be

carried, a recent writer supposes this relievo to be a delineation of the Judgment of Paris!

Another part of the mansion of the Wingfields having successively served as a popish chapel for Judge Wilton, in the reign of James II., and a dancing-school, has since been converted into a *Theatre*. Ipswich enjoys the honour of having first witnessed and acknowledged the inimitable powers of David Garrick, who, under the assumed name of Lyddal, is said to have made his first dramatic essay on this stage about 1739, in Dunstal's company from London, in the part of *Dick*, in the *Lying Valet*.

Besides the churches already mentioned, Ipswich had formerly one dedicated to St. Gregory, and impropriated to Woodbridge priory: but nothing farther is known concerning it. Mention is also made of the church of Osterbolt, as being antiquated so early as 21 Edward III. It is conjectured to have stood near the east gate, and to have derived its appellation from that circumstance; and as St. Clement's is not named in Domesday, it might probably have been erected instead of this dilapidated church of Osterbolt.

Ipswich has a spacious Market-place for corn only, now called the Corn-hill, in the centre of which was a handsome cross, with commodious shambles, first built by Mr. Edmund Daundy, in 1510, though the vulgar notion ascribes their erection to Cardinal Wolsey. In 1812 it was deemed necessary, in furtherance of the improvements that were then taking place in the town, to pull down the Market Cross, which was effected with great difficulty, as the timber and every part of it were in the most excellent preservation. In the same year, Mr. Raw, of Ipswich, published by subscription

a handsomely engraved view, in aquatinta, of the *Market Cross* and *Town Hall*, from a drawing by that ingenious artist, Mr. George Frost. It is a valuable memorial and record of the latest state and appearance of those two ancient and venerable buildings. Some further notices of it, extracted from the accounts of the Treasurer of the Corporation, may not be uninteresting. "Benjamin Osmond, by will dated June 1619, gave 50*l.* towards building this cross. In 1628, 34*l.* was paid to the town in lieu of 50*l.* which was given by B. Osmond. Paid to Thomas Allen, in part of the framing of the cross, 23*l.* More paid to him by warrant for building the same cross. More paid to said Allen in full of 38*l.* for framing the said cross.' Several entries are in the above accounts respecting the timber taken from Ulveston Hall lands, for the use of the cross, and of the sums paid by the corporation to Tooley's charity for it. "May 10, 1660, the cross was ordered to be beautified for the proclamation of King Charles II. and five or six guns to be provided at the common quay, and to be discharged at the same time. April 12, 1694, it was ordered that a new *Justice* should be set upon the cross, and the cross repaired at the charge of the town. April 15, 1723 ordered that the town-treasurer repair the market cross at the charge of the corporation;" and this year the thanks of the corporation were ordered to Francis Negus, esq. for his present of the statue of Justice which was brought from his seat at Dallinghoe. This gentleman represented the borough in the parliament of 1717, 1722, and 1727. From these notices it appears that the cross pulled down in 1812 was probably not the cross built by Mr. Daundy, but a new one on

the old site; and it will not be thought extraordinary that, after a lapse of more than a century, it might stand in need of such repairs as induced the corporation to take it down and rebuild it, in 1619. The arms on the cross above each pillar were those of Ipswich; of the families of Daundy, Bloss, Long, Sparrowe, and the two tradesmen's marks of C. A. and B. K. M.

The cross was a large octagon building of wood, the roof being supported by eight pillars, and surmounted with a good figure of Justice with her usual attributes. It was twenty-seven feet in diameter, and about fifty feet in height to the top of the figure. This figure has been since placed over the entrance of the New Corn Exchange, having been first transformed into that of Ceres by an exchange of the sword and scales for the sickle and wheat-ears. This gave occasion to the following *jeu d'esprit:*

Long, in Ipswich market-place,
Astrea look'd with languid face
Upon the proud Agrarian race;
Broken her sword, her scales uneven:
Resolv'd that corn again shall rise,
Ceres the lofty space supplies,
And holds her sample to the skies,
While scorn'd Astrea flies to heaven!

Another ill-natured wag further insinuated in verse, that this loyal protestant borough deemed it disgraceful that a popish symbol like the cross should stand in a public place,

So, *Dowsing like*, down with the structure they pull'd,
Of a moment without e'en the loss,
And thus they for ever each sinner debarr'd
From again looking up to the *cross*.

This *Dowsing*, whose name occurs more than once in the county history, was William Dowsing, of Stratford. He was born at Luxfield, and was appointed the principal of the parliamentary visitors in 1643, to inspect and remove all superstitious images, paintings, inscriptions, &c. from the churches in this county; which, to the regret of all modern antiquaries, he most effectually did. The Journal of this tasteless and fanatical zealot was published in 1786, in quarto, by R. Loder, of Woodbridge.

The market, prior to 1810, was held in the narrow street called the Butter-market, running parallel to Tower-street, which being found inconvenient, it was removed.

In 1810, five public-spirited gentlemen of this town undertook to erect a new market at their joint expense, which was completed in November, 1811. This is at no great distance from the old butter market. It is composed of an outer and inner quadrangle, round each of which runs a range of buildings, supported by stone columns, that afford accommodation and protection from the weather to the persons who attend the market and pay a small annual or weekly rent. In the centre of the interior quadrangle is a fountain, the pedestal surmounted with a pyramid of Portland stone, forming an obelisk about twenty feet in height. On each side of the pedestal a bason is cut into the solid stone, and supplied with water from a lion's head above. By these means the water, which before ran waste through the town, is made to contribute to the ornament and convenience of the market. The whole undertaking, which cost about 10,000*l.* was executed from the designs and under the direction of Mr. William Brown,

architect of Ipswich, and is highly creditable to his professional abilities. Adjoining is an *enclosed* cattle market, an arrangement truly desirable in every populous town, the work of the same proprietors. The market days are Tuesday and Thursday for small meat, Wednesday and Friday for fish, and Saturday for all kinds of provisions.

The County Gaol here has been erected with such attention to the health and morals of the prisoners, as to call forth the warmest approbation from the late Mr. Neild, many years the coadjutant with the late Dr. Lettsom. The same applies to that at Bury. The boundary wall of the former incloses about an acre and a half of ground, and is twenty-four feet high. The turnkey's lodge is in the front, and has a leaden roof, on which executions take place. From the lodge, an avenue ninety-eight feet long leads to the keeper's house in the centre of the prison, from which the several court-yards are completely inspected. The prison, consisting of four wings, has spacious and airy courts about 75 feet by 45 attached to it, and three smaller about 44 feet, in one of which a fire-engine is kept. The chapel is up one pair of stairs in the gaoler's house; and here, as well as in the prison, the persons confined, both debtors and felons, are kept separate.

The House of Correction stands in an airy situation near the borough gaol, and is surrounded by a wall 17 feet high. It contains three court-yards, each 50 feet by 30, and has a chapel in the keeper's house.

The Town and Borough Gaol is situated in St. Matthew's-street, and is both handsome and commodious. The prisoners here employ themselves in

spinning, making garters, cutting skewers, and such like operations, and receive the full amount of their earnings.

Among the benevolent institutions of this town are three charity schools, in two of which are seventy boys, and in the third, forty girls. Besides these, it has a school on the plan of Mr. Lancaster, opened July 8, 1811, with 200 boys.

An excellent charity for the relief and support of the widows and orphans of poor clergymen in the county was begun here in 1704, by the voluntary subscriptions of a few gentlemen of Ipswich and Woodbridge, and their vicinity; an institution which has since been eminently successful in effecting the laudable purpose for which it was designed.

A small distance from the town, on the Woodbridge road, some extensive barracks were erected for infantry and cavalry, but since the peace they have been taken down. Towards Nacton is the race-course, forming part of an extensive common, which, being the property of the corporation, was sold in 1811 to several private individuals; so that the sports of the turf will probably soon be supplanted by more beneficial pursuits. Ipswich contained, in 1811, 2733 houses, and 13,670 inhabitants: it has six annual fairs. This town was formerly famous for its manufactures of broad cloth, and the best canvas for sail-cloth, called Ipswich double. While those manufactures continued to flourish, it had several companies of traders incorporated by charter, as clothiers, merchant-taylors, merchant-adventurers, and others. About the middle of the seventeenth century the woollen trade began to decline here, and gradually dwindled entirely

away. Its loss was so severely felt for a long time, that Ipswich acquired the character of being "a town without people." Favourably seated for commercial speculations, it has at length recovered this shock, and is now rapidly increasing in consequence and population. Its principal traffic at present is in malting and corn, the exportation of which by sea is facilitated by the æstuary of the Orwell, navigable for light vessels up to the town itself, while those of greater burden are obliged to bring-to at Downham Reach, three or four miles lower down. This port is almost dry at ebb; but the returning tide, generally rising about twelve feet, converts it into a magnificent sheet of water. Here are two yards employed in ship-building; and though the number of vessels belonging to Ipswich is said to have declined from the decrease of the coal-trade, yet more than 30,000 chaldron are annually imported into this town.

Vessels fitted up for the accommodation of passengers, like the Gravesend boats at London, sail every tide from Ipswich to Harwich, and back again; an excursion that is rendered truly delightful by the beauty of the surrounding scenery. The Orwell, which, for its extent, may be pronounced one of the finest salt-rivers in the kingdom, is bordered on either side almost the whole way with gently rising hills, enriched with gentlemen's seats, villages with their churches, woods, noble avenues, parks stocked with deer, extending to the water's edge; and, in a word, almost every object that can give variety to a landscape. In the passage from Ipswich, the view is terminated in front by the main ocean; on the right with

a prospect of Harwich, and the high coast of Essex; on the left with Languard Fort, and the high land of Walton, and Felixtow cliffs behind it. On the return to Ipswich, the scene closes with a view of that town, which appears to great advantage, accommodating itself in a sort of half-moon to the winding of the river.

In a word, the banks of the Orwell are, in general, highly picturesque, especially when it becomes the æstuary at Downham Reach, about three or four miles below Ipswich; to which place it is navigable for ships of considerable burthen. The banks there rise into pleasing elevations, clothed with a rich luxuriancy of wood, and adorned with several good seats; and the river assumes the feature of a large lake, being, to all appearance, land-locked on every side. We must now leave Ipswich, but not without borrowing a tribute to this highly-favoured town and its beautiful river, for which we must be indebted to the taste and industry of one of its ingenious inhabitants, though the tribute be only a simple flower from the richly variegated wreaths that compose *The Suffolk Garland*, printed by Mr. Raw, of Ipswich.

Orwell, delightful stream, whose waters flow,
  Fring'd with luxuriant beauty to the main!
  Amid thy woodlands taught, the Muse would fain
On thee her grateful eulogy bestow;
  Smooth and majestic though thy current glide,
And bustling commerce plough thy liquid plain;
  Though grac'd with loveliness thy verdant side,
While all around enchantment seems to reign;
  These glories still with filial love I taste,
And feel their praise, yet thou hast one beside

To me more sweet; for on thy banks reside
Friendship and truth combin'd, whose union chaste
Has sooth'd my soul, and these shall bloom sublime,
When fade the fleeting charms of Nature and of Time.

At the distance of three miles from Ipswich is

Washbrook, or *Great Belstead.* The manor of Hamer Hall here formerly belonged to the abbey of Aumerle, or Albemarle, in Normandy; and afterwards to the nunnery of Dartford, in Kent. At the dissolution it was granted to Sir Percival Hart. Within the bounds of this parish there was formerly another church, and perhaps a hamlet, called Felchurch, or Velechurch, which was impropriated to the abbey of Albemarle; and upon the dissolution of the alien priories, given to the nunnery of Dartford. The ruins of this church were some years since visible in a field bordering on the road leading from Sproughton to Copdock Water. The church of Washbrook was consolidated with Copdock about half a century ago. About two miles north-west from this place is

Burstal, called a berewic, or hamlet of Bramford. The manor of Harrolds, in Burstal, was granted to Cardinal Wolsey, as parcel of the possession of St. Peter's priory, in Ipswich. A cross road to the westward, at the distance of a mile, brings us to

Hintlesham. This was anciently the lordship of the Talbots, Pipards, and for many years of the Timperleys. The hall, &c. was bought of them by Richard Powis, esq. sometime member for Orford. From him it was purchased by Sir Richard Lloyd, knt. one of the barons of his majesty's Court of Exchequer, and is now the seat of R. S. Lloyd, esq. The church was impropriated to King's Hall, now part of Trinity College, Cam-

bridge, about 1349; but before the year 1400, the impropriation was given up, and the minister presented and instituted into the rectory. Here was formerly a chapel in this parish, and there is yet a place called Chapel Field. Another manor in Hintlesham belonged to Bury Abbey, and was granted to Robert Downs by Henry VIII.: this came afterwards to the Veseys; and a third manor or estate here belonged to St. Peter's Priory in Ipswich, and was granted with that to Cardinal Wolsey, 19 Henry VIII. In the chancel of the parish church are several monuments of the Timperleys, and it has been said a tomb of blue marble, on which was the portraiture in brass of a man in complete armour, and a woman with a hound at her feet, with this inscription, "Here lyeth the venerable man, John Timperley, esq. heir and lord of Hintlesham, and Margaret his wife, which John died an. 1400." This tomb, if such it ever was, is now reduced to a stone in the pavement, the brasses all gone, except a single shield. The inscription was in Latin, and may be found in Weever.

Turning southwards toward the high road, a mile distant, is

Chattisham. The manor, impropriation, and advowson of the vicarage belonged formerly to the priory of Wykes in Essex, and were granted first to Cardinal Wolsey, and then to the provost and fellows of Eton.

Copdock, two miles from Chattisham, brings us again to the high road. The hall-house here is the property of Lord Walsingham, who is also patron of the church and lord of the manor.

Belstead, or Little Belstead, lies about a mile to

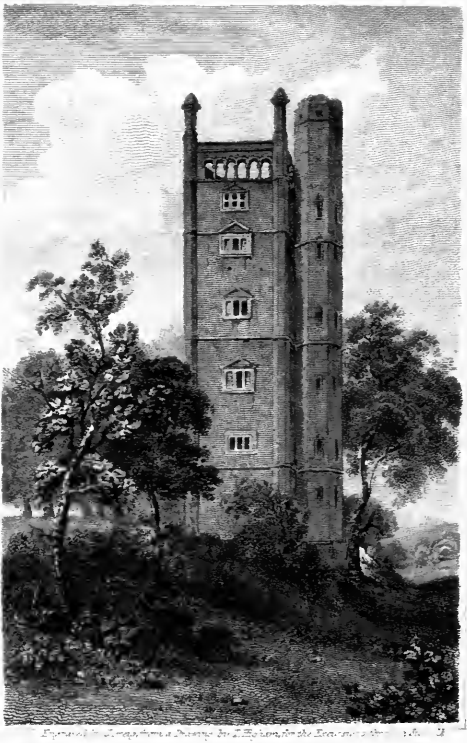
the left of the road, and adjoins Copdock. In King John's time, or that of Henry III. at the latest, William de Goldingham, lord there, paid fines to Ipswich for freedom from toll for himself, and for his villains in Belstead. The same family continued to present to the church till after the year 1560, when the manor was purchased by Mr. Bloss, a wealthy clothier of Ipswich. It now belongs to Sir Robert Harland, bart.

WHERSTEAD lies two miles farther to the left, near the bank of the Orwell. Gilbert de Reymes had this lordship in King John's time, and was admitted a burgess of Ipswich, and compounded for an exemption from toll, custom, &c. there for his villains. The church was early impropriated to the prior and convent of Ely, and the rectory now belongs to the dean and chapter there; but the advowson of the vicarage is in the crown.

In this parish is *Wherstead Lodge*, beautifully situated on the banks of the Orwell. It was the mansion of the late John Vernon, esq. but now of Sir Robert Harland, whose ancestor, a distinguished naval officer, was created a baronet in 1771, by the title of Sir Robert Harland, of Sproughton, where he had at that time a seat, since taken down. In the same year he sailed as commander in chief of his majesty's fleet to the East Indies; in 1778 he was second in command to Admiral Keppel; in 1782 he was appointed one of the lords of the Admiralty, and died in 1784.

FRESTON is about the same distance from the road as Wherstead, rather more than a mile south of that place. This manor was anciently vested in a family who took their name from it, and who were proprietors of the estate till about the time of Henry

VIII., when it devolved to the Latymers. Not far from the bank of the Orwell stands *Freston Tower*, a strong quadrangular brick building, about ten feet by twelve, with a polygonal turret at each angle. It is six stories high, and contains as many rooms, one above another, communicating by a winding staircase, which, on the exterior, forms the principal face of the edifice, having three sides and numerous windows. The best apartment seems to have been on the fifth story; it is higher than any of the others, and was probably hung with tapestry, as the small nails yet left in the wood seem to indicate. The top is formed by a number of open arches, and each of the small turrets at the angles terminates in a pinnacle. The windows are square; and, except in the principal apartment, very small. In this building there is but one fire-place, which is on the ground-floor, and even that seems to be of recent construction, and to have no chimney; whence it is probable that this place was rather an occasional pleasure retreat, or watch-tower, than designed for the purpose of permanent habitation. Excepting a farm-house, at the distance of a few yards, no trace of any building appears near the tower. "As there is among the records of the manor," says the Suffolk Traveller, "a very exact and particular account of the manor-house, and all the out-buildings and offices to it, in Henry the VII.'s time, and no mention is there made of the tower, it is pretty certain it was not then built; so that it is reasonable to suppose it to have been the work of the Latymers. From the smallness of the windows in all the other rooms, it looks as if they were built chiefly for the support of the uppermost room, which, having large windows on three sides of



FRESTON TOWER.

The property of C. Berners Esq.r

SUFFOLK.

it, seems to have been contrived by some whimsical man, for taking rather a better view of the river Orwell than can be had on the neighbouring hill."

Woolverston joins to Freston. The hall, the elegant mansion of Charles Berners, esq. now high sheriff for the county, stands in a most delightful situation on the west bank of the river Orwell. The house is built of Woolpit brick; the centre of the principal front, adorned with a pediment, supported by four Ionic columns, is connected with the wings on each side by a colonnade. The bow front next the river commands the most pleasing views of the water and the opposite shore of Nacton, through the trees which embellish the park.

The interior of this edifice corresponds with its exterior. The apartments are fitted up with great taste; they contain some good pictures, and the ceilings are beautifully painted. The stables, which are an ornamental building, stand detached from the house, on the spot occupied by the old mansion. The present hall was erected in 1776, by the late William Berners, esq. proprietor of the stately street in London called after his name.

At some distance from the house, in the park, and between it and the river, an interesting monument of filial affection presents a pleasing object, that is seen to a considerable distance in passing up and down the river. This is a square obelisk of free-stone, ninety-six feet high, with an ascent in the interior to the top, which is surmounted by a globe, encircled with rays. The base is encompassed with iron railing. On one side of it is this inscription:

In
Memoriam
Gulielmi Berners, Armig:
Patris optimi
et
bene merentis
hunc obeliscum extruxit
filius
Carolus Berners
1793.

On the contrary side, next to the river, is the following:

Gulielmus Berners
Natus
Jul. 10. A. D 1709.
Denatus
Septemb. 18. 1783.

The park contains about 900 acres. It is well stocked with beautiful spotted deer, and abounds with game of every kind. The estate, early in the last century, belonged to a Mr. Tyson, who became a bankrupt in 1720, when the infamous John Ward, of Hackney, claimed it in right of a mortgage which he had upon it. The matter was brought before the Court of Chancery, and for upwards of half a century the cause remained undecided. At length, about 1773, the property was ordered to be sold, and was purchased by the father of Charles Berners, esq.

Chelmondiston, commonly called Chemton, is also near the Orwell, about two miles from Woolverston, &c.; here is Chelmondiston-hall. The advowson of the church is in the crown.

Pursuing the course of the river towards the sea, we next arrive at

SHOTLEY. Here was anciently a hamlet, called Kirketon. A market and a fair were granted at this place to William Visedelou, who was lord here in 31 Edward I. Sir Thomas Mosel was lord afterwards. The Feltons had the lordship for some ages; and at last it came, with the other estates of that family, to the Earl of Bristol.

Turning to the westward, we observe the villages of Harkstead and Erwarton, lying near the north bank of the Stour river, near its junction with the Orwell.

HARKSTEAD. According to the Domesday Survey, *Odo de Campania* was lord here at that time. King Edward III., in his charter to the nunnery of Dartford, gives and confirms to it the manor of Brandiston in Herkestede in Suffolk. This manor was granted, 31 of Henry VIII. to Sir Perceval Hart, knt. It came afterwards, with the advowson of the rectory, to the family of the Cocks in Worcestershire, who had it some time, and then sold the manor, hall, house, &c. to Knox Ward, esq. Clarencieux king at arms, whose heir sold them to Thomas Staunton, of Holbrook, esq. The advowson was sold to the Rev. Richard Canning, who was editor of the second edition of Kirby's Suffolk Traveller. Beside the parish church, here was formerly a chapel dedicated to St. Clement, no vestiges of which have remained for many years; but it stood at the south-east corner of a field, from thence called Chapel Down. A legacy was left to this chapel of St. Clement in 1528; and a house was bequeathed in 1685, with the garden, and one *pightle* abutting south upon St. Clement's churchyard, and upon the millway towards the north.

ERWARTON. The lordship of this place formerly

belonged to the family of the D'Avilers; but afterwards came to the Bacons, when Sir Robert Bacon married Isabel, the daughter of Bartholomew D'Avilers, about the year 1330. About 1345, this family procured the grant of a market and a fair here. In 1577, the estate was purchased of Sir Drue Drury by Sir Philip Parker, knt. whose descendant of the same name was, in 1661, created a baronet. It now belongs to Charles Berners, esq.

Erwarton Hall is situated on a point of land at the junction of the Orwell and Stour, commanding a fine view of these rivers. Neither the house nor the offices are remarkable for their antiquity or appearance, though the gate of this mansion has attracted considerable notice. It has been urged, from the whimsical taste of its construction, that it must have been erected in the time of Elizabeth, or James I. when architecture seems to have been at its lowest ebb, the buildings of those days being neither Grecian nor Gothic, but an unnatural and discordant jumble of both styles.

About a mile to the north-west of Harkstead is

Holbrook. This, in the time of King Henry III., was the lordship of Richard de Holbrook, who paid fines to Ipswich for himself and his villains here and at Tattingstone. It was afterwards Mr. Daundy's, then the Clench's. Judge Clench, who died here in 1607, lies buried in the church, with this inscription.

In obitum Colendissimi Suiq Temporis,
Antiquissimi Judicis Johannis Clenche,
Qui obiit XIX. Die Augusti, Anno Salvatoris
1607.

Ecce jacet subter venerandus marmore judex
Terram terra petit, pulvere corpore inest,
Ast anima ad superos sumiq; palatia cœli,
Fertur et æterni vivit in arce Dei.

STUTTON is about two miles from Holbrook, and is seated on the Stour. The manor of *Stutton Hall* once belonged to Mr. Thomas May, but was purchased by the Earl of Dysart. Another hall in this parish, called *Crow's Hall*, was vested in the family of Bowes. The manor of Greping, or Creeping Hall in Stutton, was granted to Humfry Wingfield, 29 Henry VIII.; and in 4 Eliz. to Thomas Seckford, as parcel of the possessions of the priory of Coln in Essex. A family of the Jermys formerly lived here, as appears by the monuments in the church. To the right of this place are the houses called Alton Hall and Hales Grove, which we leave on turning towards the high road, and proceed to

TATTINGSTONE. Here was an old seat called the *place*, or *palace*, that belonged to the Beaumonts, but was purchased and rebuilt by Thomas White, esq. and which new erection was the residence of his son in the year 1764. It is now the property of Thomas Western, esq. Here was formerly a free chapel in this parish, which belonged to the Earl of Oxford, who presented to the rectory in the time of Henry VIII. In the years 1458 and 1459, legacies were left towards building the chancel. In this parish is the house of industry for the hundred of Samford, incorporated in 1765. The number of parishes is twenty-five; and the sum originally borrowed was 8250*l.* The edifice was erected in 1766, and the average number of poor annually admitted into it 260. They are principally employed in

spinning for Norwich. The rates were settled at two and sixpence in the pound annually. From this place we proceed to

Bentley, which brings us back to our road. In the reign of Henry III. the manor of Little Bentley appears to have belonged to the Tallemaches, ancestors of the Earl of Dysart, as Hugh Tallemache paid a fine to Ipswich for himself and his villains. The church here was given by Henry of Dodneis to the priory of the Holy Trinity in Ipswich; and the manor of Bentley, the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, with two woods, Portland Grove and New Grove, were granted as part of the possession of that priory to Lionel Talmage, 36 Henry VIII. This family removed hence to Helmingham, in Claydon hundred. At a place called Dodneis, in this parish, there was a small priory of black canons, which was suppressed by the first bull of Clement VII. and granted to Cardinal Wolsey.

Little Wenham is about two miles to the right of the road. The hall here has generally been deemed a fine old building. It was built in 1569, by R. Brews, as appears by an inscription over the doorway. Although this building has been very little noticed, it is highly deserving of the antiquaries' attention, as a good specimen of the architecture of the time; and though not inhabited, is still in a good state of preservation.

Capel is on the same side of the road. Here are three manors, Churchford Hall, Boitwell Hall, belonging to Queen's College, Cambridge, and another small manor. On the opposite side of the road lies

East Bergholt, which, with Brantham, is situated on the Stour opposite to Manningtree in Essex. King

Henry II. gave the Templars all his lands in Bergholt, and a manor here was granted to John, Earl of Oxford, 36 Henry VIII. as lately belonging to the preceptory at Battisford. The relict of John Vere, twelfth Earl of Oxford, held the manors of Chelsworth, East Bergholt, and Brook Hall in Suffolk, as her own inheritance, A. D. 1472. East Bergholt is still a considerable village, the church of which has been consolidated with the rectory of the contiguous parish of Brantham. It is supposed to have been a market-town, and a considerable place of trade in the cloth manufactures. The church is a good structure, and many parts of it are of very elegant workmanship; but the building of the steeple, towards which many legacies were left in the sixteenth century, has not yet been undertaken.

The bells, five in number, are fixed in a shed in the churchyard. South from the church is a neat mansion built by Thomas Chaplin, esq. which, together with the manor and advowson, devolved by marriage to the family of Hankey. It is now the residence of Peter Godfrey, esq.

Brantham. King William Rufus gave the church of Brantham, with the berewics of Bercold, Scotlege, Meelflege, and Benetlege, to the abbey of Battle in Sussex; and the advowson of this rectory, as late belonging to that abbey, was granted to John, Earl of Oxford, 36 Henry VIII. In the hamlet of Cattiwade, in this parish, there was a chapel near the bridge over the Stour into Essex. About the year 1460, Sir John Braham, of Braham Hall in Cattiswade, is mentioned, and afterwards William Lancaster, esq. who married a daughter of the Brahams.

Having noticed all the places of any interest on our left, on our right we first observe

Great Wenham, or *Burnt Wenham*. Robert de Vaux, who was one of the knights of Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, was admitted a freeman of Ipswich in the reign of King John, and paid fines for himself and villains in Wenham. The manor and advowson of the rectory formerly belonged to the priory of Leigh in Essex; in the 28 of Henry VIII. it was granted to R. Cavendish; but afterwards came to the heirs of Sir Philip Parker Long, bart. About two miles westward of this place is

Holton. This lordship belonged formerly to the family of Fastolf, then to the Mannocks, and afterwards to Sir John Williams. About a mile to the north is Raydon, now nowise remarkable.

Higham is about a mile and a half to the south-west of Holton. This was given to Trinity Priory, in Ipswich, by Maud de Munchensi, and was impropriated thereto; but the impropriation was purchased by Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Smith, and given to the minister. About a mile south of this place lies Stratford, which will conclude our present excursion.

Stratford is the southern limit of the county. William de Munchensi had an estate here in the fourteenth year of Edward I. Michael de la Pole procured a special charter to hold a court leet in his lordships of Stratford and Heigham, in this county, in the 7th of Richard II., and likewise for a market here on Thursday in every week, and a fair on the eve, day, and morrow, of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, in the third year of Henry V. The advowson

Engraved by W. Wallis from a Sketch by T. Higham for the Excursions through Suffolk.

EASTBERGHOLT CHURCH.

SUFFOLK.

Pub.d 4.th Sep.r 1818 by Longman & Co. Paternoster Row

belonged formerly to the Dukes of Suffolk; but ever since the reign of Henry VIII. it has been in the crown. The north aisle of this handsome church was built about the year 1500. The family of Mors were such great benefactors towards it, that some of their names were expressed in the stone work of the water table.

About a quarter of a mile south-west of this place, on the bank of the Stour, is a camp, where some antiquarians fix the much disputed Roman station *Ad Ansam*. The opinions on this subject are thus summed up by the late Mr. Gough, and his conclusion seems to be perfectly satisfactory:—"Ad Ansam seems to be the most undetermined station of any in the county (Essex, in which it was placed by various writers). Mr. Burton declines fixing it, and only tells us that Mr. Talbot, in some copies, set it at Catawade Bridge, where the Stour makes an island. One would think he had read it *ad Insulam;* and thereabouts, or at Stratford, Dr. Stukeley places it, as does Richard of Cirencester, changing its name to *Ad Sturium amnem*. Mr. Horsley, by the fifteen miles between *Combretonium* and *Ad Ansam*, is induced to carry the last to Mersey island, where are great remains of the Romans. Afterwards supposing the military ways to have met at Colchester, and coincided for four or five miles, he carries it to Casterford, called in Dr. Stukeley's map, *Chesterford* and *Canonium*; but unfortunately the Doctor mistook Easterford, or Kelvedon, for Casterford, else we had had a Roman station beyond controversy. Mr. Horsley, in his table, page 443, makes the road take a course perfectly answerable to his friend Ward's idea of an *Ansa*, a curve: carrying it by Witham, Maldon,

Fambridge, Chelmsford, Leiton, to London, which is in the form of an inverted z. If we allow Camalodunum to be Colchester, *Ad Ansam* is to be sought for on the Suffolk edge of the county, and then Richard of Cirencester's *Ad Sturium* has the fairest claim, supposing *Ansa* to be another word for the flexure of that river."

EXCURSION V.

From Ipswich through Whitton, Claydon, Blakenham Magna, Baylham, Needham, Stow Market, Haughley New Street, Woolpit, and Beighton, to Bury Saint Edmunds.

Whitton, the first place we arrive at in our present Excursion, is within two miles of Ipswich. The church here is sometimes called Whitton chapel, but improperly, as it has been instituted as a parochial church, upon the presentation of the Bishop of Ely, ever since the year 1299. Kirby remarks, if any of the churches now in being (in or near Ipswich) were built in the Conqueror's time, which may well be questioned, we think this bids as fair to be one of them as any; and the neighbouring church of Thurleston seems to be of the like kind, and lies about a mile to the right of the road. On the opposite side, about a mile and a half from the road, is

Bramford. This, in the 22d Edward I. was the lordship and demesne of Robert de Tibetot; but for

many years the Acton family were the residents of the hall here. The church, with the berewic of Burstal and Albrighteston, belonging to it, was given to Battle Abbey by King William Rufus, and that abbey had the rectory, and were patrons of the vicarage, till 33 Henry VIII. when it was granted to Christ Church, Canterbury, in exchange. An uncommon tenure is attached to the manor here, for the tenants hold of the lord by a lease of twenty-one years, renewed from time to time upon a fine; and upon the death of a tenant, or an alienation, the new tenant is admitted to the remainder of the time unexpired, so that the lord has more profit of the lands than the tenants have. There was another manor in Bramford belonging to the Bishop of Ely as late as the year 1593. From this place a good road leads directly to Great Blakenham, at which place we turn to the left, quitting the mail road, and proceed towards Bury by a good high road.

Great Blakenham. The manor and advowson here was given to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy, by Walter Gifford, Earl of Buckingham, and afterwards granted by Henry VI. to the provost and fellows of Eton.

Little Blakenham lies about two miles to the left of Great Blakenham. The lords of Nettlestead were patrons of this rectory when the Tibetots, Despensers, and Wentworths, had that lordship. After the manor and advowson were in the Milner's family, they were vested in the Right Honourable Lord Orwell, late James Vernon, esq.

Nettlestead is about a mile to the left of Little Blakenham. The Earls of Richmond and Brittany had the lordship here from the Conquest to the 17th

of Henry II. when Conan, the last earl, died. In the 25th of Henry III. Peter de Savoy had a grant of it. It was after the property of the lords Tiptot, from whom it went to the Despensers. About the year 1450 it became the estate of Roger Wentworth, whose descendants were created lords by Henry VIII., and it continued in the Wentworth family till the time of Charles I. when Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Cleveland, sold it to William Lodge, citizen of London.

Somersham is about a mile south of Nettlestead. The family of Bohun, Earls of Northampton, were many years patrons of this rectory, and lords of the manor, which, with that of Offton, were granted to Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, by Richard III. in 1423. Katherine, Queen of England, presented to it, in right of the manor of Somersham, which she had by the grant of King Henry VI. The old wills make mention of a chapel in Somersham-street. *Aldham* and *Elmsett* lie about three miles to the left of Somersham, and nearly join each other.

Aldham. This was the lordship of the second Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford, in the twenty-fourth year of Edward III. From the Earl of Leicester it was afterwards bought by Sir Joshua Vanneck, and was late the property of Lord Huntingfield.

Elmsett. The church of this village, pleasantly situated on a hill, is built of flints, and covered with slate. The interior is particularly neat and clean. On a mural monument in the chancel is a kneeling figure of a man with a book open before him, his arms above, and underneath this inscription:

"Here lyeth the body of Edward Sherland, of Gray's Inn, esquire, descended from the ancient family of the

Sherlands, in the Isle of Sheppy, in Kent, who lived his whole life a single man, and died in this parish the 13th of May, 1609.

"Tombes have no use unless it be to showe
The due respect which friend to friend doth owe;
'Tis not a mausolean monument,
Or hireling epitaph, that can prevent
The flux of fame: a painted sepulchre
Is but a rotten trustlesse treasurer,
And a fair gate built to Oblivion.
But he whose life, whose ev'ry action,
Like well wrought stones and pyramides, erecte
A monument to honour and respecte,
As this man's did—he needs no other herse,
Yet hath but due, having both tombe and verse."

Near the north side of the church stands the house formerly the parsonage, now much decayed, but once surrounded by a moat. On the descent of the opposite hill is a dropping well, which deserves the inspection of the curious.

Elmsett is remarkable as the native place of John Boyse, an eminent scholar and divine, who was born here in 1560. His father, himself a great proficient in the Greek and Hebrew languages, was first curate, and afterwards rector, of this parish. The son, who is said to have manifested such a precocity of talents, that by the time he had attained his fifth year he could read the Hebrew bible, was educated at St. John's college, Cambridge. Here he acquired the reputation of being the first Greek scholar of his time, and was chosen Greek lecturer. He used to deliver his lectures at four

o'clock in the morning, in his own chamber; and so numerous was the attendance, that it was said, "there used to be as many candles lighted in St. John's at that early hour, as the bell which then rang gave tolls." He once designed to apply himself to the study of physic, with a view of making it his profession; but being troubled with a weakness frequently incident to persons of a delicate constitution, that of believing themselves to be afflicted with every disease of which they read, he turned his attention entirely to divinity. On the death of his father, he succeeded him in the rectory. When King James I. ordered the new version of the Bible to be made, Mr. Boyse was chosen one of the Cambridge translators, and executed not only his own share, which was part of the Apocrypha, but likewise that of one of his colleagues. He was also appointed one of the committee of six to revise the whole, each member of which, while engaged in the task, was paid by the Stationers' Company thirty shillings per week. After this he assisted Sir Henry Savile in translating the works of Chrysostom, for which laborious task he received only a copy of the book. The highest preferment which this indefatigable divine obtained was a prebend in the cathedral of Ely, given him by Bishop Andrews. He died January 14, 1643.

Whatfield, or Wheatfield, has four manors in it, and lies about three miles to the left of Elmsett. The manor of Cosford, that of Burrards, Hornham, and that of Whatfield Hall, were once in the possession of William Vesey, for whom there is a handsome monument of white marble in the church. "Whatfield, or Wheatfield, is chiefly remarkable," says the Suffolk

Traveller, " for growing the most excellent seed wheat," from which circumstance the name may perhaps be derived. The Rev. John Clubbe was rector of this parish, and among other things published, in 1758, " The History and Antiquities of the ancient Villa of Wheatfield, in the County of Suffolk." In this he endeavours to ridicule Morant, the historian of Colchester, and antiquarians in general, and not without some portion of success.

Offton lies about two miles from Elmsett, on our way towards the road, and is remarkable for a castle built on a chalky hill, by Offa, king of the Mercians, after he had slain Etheldred, king of the East Angles; and from him it is said the town took its name. Not the least vestige of this castle has been seen for many years. The prior and convent of monks at Thetford had the advowson of the church, and thirty acres of land here; and these were granted as their possessions to Thomas Duke of Norfolk, 32 Henry VIII.

Willisham is about a mile north of Offton. The church here was given by Albert Grelli, to the prior and convent of the Holy Trinity at Ipswich, before the year 1203; and at the dissolution, the tenement, canons, and the impropriation, were granted as parcels of the possessions of that priory, to Andrews, Lord Windsor, in 31 Henry VIII. It was afterwards Bishop Brownrigg's.

Baylham brings us back to the high road. About the year 1300 this was the lordship of John de Burnaville, and afterwards belonged to his descendants till near 1400. About 1450 it came to John Andrews, and, by the marriage of his daughter, to Thomas

Windsor, esq. Afterwards it became the possession of their son, Sir Andrew Windsor, of Stanwell, afterwards Lord Windsor. It now belongs to Mr. Acton.

Dormsden lies on the left of the road, about a mile from Baylham. This is a hamlet of Barking. The manor of *Taston Hall*, in Darmsden, belonged to Lord Windsor in the year 1596, and devolved to the family of the Crowleys. About the same distance from, and on the same side of the road, is Barking, and *Barking Hall*, the seat of R. I. A. Kemys, esq. but the property of the Earl of Ashburnham.

From the time of King Edward the Confessor to the fourth year of Queen Elizabeth, the manor of Barking, with the advowson of the rectory, belonged to the church of Ely, and were then alienated from it. Sir Francis Needham bought them of James I. His eldest son sold them to Francis Theobald, esq. whose son was eminent for his skill in the Oriental languages.

Needham is on the high road, about eight miles from Ipswich. This is a hamlet of Barking, and had a fair granted to the Bishop of Ely, in the tenth year of Henry III. It was formerly a place of considerable trade from its woollen manufactures. The town is tolerably well built. The church, a mean building, with a wooden belfry, is a chapel of ease to Barking. The authors of the Magna Britannica assert, that Needham became so much decayed, that its poverty was proverbial. The Stow-market canal passes by the place, and has greatly augmented its corn trade. Near Needham is a lake of thirty or forty acres, called *Bosmere*, which gives its name to the hundred. The Gipping passes through it; and is said to be of great depth,

and to abound in fish. Needham contains 281 houses and 1301 inhabitants: its weekly market is on Wednesday, and its annual fair on November 8.

Battisford is less than a mile to the left of Barking. Here was an hospital or preceptory of knights dedicated to St. John of Jerusalem, of the yearly value of 53*l.* 10*s.* which at the dissolution was granted to Sir Richard Gresham. One of the manors in this parish belonged formerly to the Bishop of Norwich. Being surrendered to Henry VIII., he granted it, in 1545, to Sir Richard Gresham and Richard Billingford. Philip Bacon, esq. had his seat at the hall in right of his mother, which was taken down about the year 1764. The frame of the Royal Exchange, built by Sir Thomas Gresham, was made upon Battisford Tye (a large common of about 200 acres, lately inclosed), and most of the timber used for that work was taken off this manor. Nearly two miles to the westward is

Ringshall. Besides the parish church, here was formerly a free chapel belonging to the prior and convent of Norwich, endowed with thirty acres of land. Sir William Barker, bart. of Ireland, had the hall and manor here; but, upon his death, before 1764, they were sold, and vested in William Watson, esq. but soon after in the Wollastons.

Bricet is a mile to the south of Ringshall. This place was remarkable for a priory founded by Ralph Fitz Brian and Emma his wife, and made a cell to Nobiliac in France, which occasioned its suppression as an alien priory: its revenues were granted to the provost and fellows of King's College, Cambridge, who are lords of the manor, and lessors of the tithes.

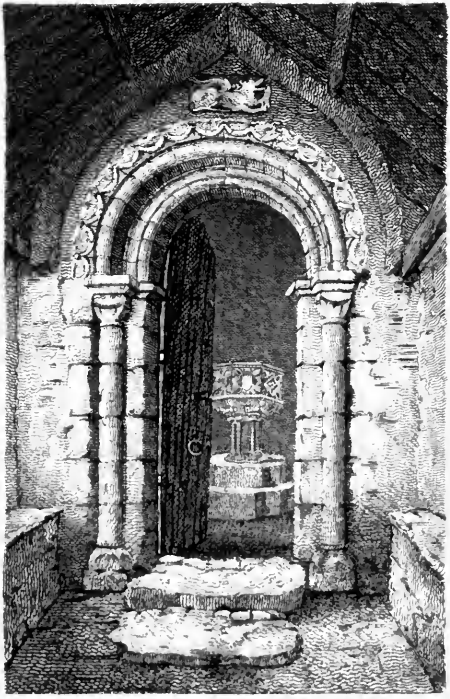
Bricet Parva. The prior and convent of Cluniac

monks at Thetford had the advowson of the church and twelve acres of land, of the gift of Robert de Reims. The church having been long down, the living has been annexed to Offton ever since the year 1503. *Talmash Hall,* in this place, is said to have been sometime the seat of the Kemps, but it afterwards came to the family of John Luther, esq. member for Essex.

About two miles from Bricet is WATTISHAM, held by a singular tenure of serjeantry. The church was impropriated to the priory of Bricet. The impropriation now belongs to King's College, Cambridge. About three miles farther to the left is

BILDESTON, a small town, containing 762 inhabitants and 110 houses, once noted for its manufacture of blue cloth and blankets, which afterwards dwindled away to the mere spinning of yarn. The place had formerly a market, and has now two fairs, on Ash Wednesday and Ascension day. The church, which is a good building, stands on a hill on the west side of the town. Here was also a chapel dedicated to St. Leonard, in which there was a chantry called Erdingtons, where, long after the Reformation, divine service used often to be performed, on account of the distance of the church from town. At this place is a neat cottage, the seat of Richard Wilson, esq. About a mile south of this place is Nedging, now an inconsiderable village.

KETTLEBARSTON is about two miles north-west of Bildeston. William de la Pole, Marquis of Suffolk, obtained a grant of the manors of Kettlebarston and Nedding, in this county, 23 Henry VI., to hold by the service of carrying a golden sceptre, with a dove upon the head of it, upon the coronation day of the king's heirs and successors; and another sceptre of ivory,



with a golden dove on the head of it, upon the day of the coronation of the then queen, and all successive queens of England. It is said the Waldegraves had their seat at the hall here: this afterwards descended to the Lemans, and from them to the Beachcrofts.

From Kettlebarston, returning towards the high road, we pass Hitcham, an inconsiderable place, and about three miles northward arrive at

Brettenham, at the head of the little river Breton. This is supposed, by the author of the Suffolk Traveller and some antiquaries, arguing from the sound and signification of the name, to be the *Combretonium* of Antoninus; and the vestiges of a camp, a quarter of a mile south-west of the place, seem to confirm the conjecture. Others, however, place this station at Icklingham, near Mildenhall, in the hundred of Lackford. The family of Wenyeve resided at this place almost two centuries. It now belongs to Mr. Marric, who married the heiress of that family.

Passing Houstead Green, a good road leads us to Great and Little Finborough, the latter lying about two miles south of the former.

Great Finborough. The descendants of Ranulf Glanville gave possessions here to the prior and convent of Butley, who had the rectory and advowson of the vicarage till the dissolution: but in the year 1559, they were granted to the Bishop of Ely in exchange.

Finborough Hall was built by Mr. Wollaston, but very much improved in 1795 by the present proprietor and lord of the manor, Roger Pettiward, esq. under the direction of Mr. Francis Sandys. This elegant mansion is constructed of Woolpit brick. In the centre of the front is a projecting bow adorned with

a pediment, supported by four columns likewise of brick, formed in moulds made expressly for the purpose. The house stands in one of the most delightful situations in the county. The park, comprehending about 200 acres, gently slopes from the mansion into a valley, which nearly forms a circle from west to south. Through the greater part of this valley, a river, rising in the parish of Rattlesden, winds its course to join the Gipping below Stowmarket. Beyond the river the park again rises to the north, and is skirted by a wood. It is diversified by clumps of very fine timber. An embowered walk, winding behind the hall on the summit of the hill, leads to the church, which contains several handsome monuments of the Wollaston family, formerly the proprietors of Finborough, and particularly one to the memory of William Wollaston, the author of the *Religion of Nature Delineated*, who resided, and is interred here. He was born in 1659 at Coton Clanford, in Staffordshire, and died in 1724.

Buxhall, nearly adjoining Great Finborough, was the estate of Bartho de Burghersh, in the reign of Edward III., and is remarkable as being the birthplace of Sir William Coppinger, Lord Mayor of London, anno domini 1512. At his death he gave half his estate to charitable purposes, and half to his relations, who lived here in good circumstances. This family was so hospitable, that to live like the Coppingers became proverbial. Close to the church stands the elegant house of the Rev. Henry Hill, rector of the parish, and also lord of the manor of Buxhall.

Badley lies about three miles to the right of Little Finborough, bringing us nearly back to the road.

This was formerly the seat of the Mortimers. The Pooleys had it from about the year 1460. Richard Gipps, esq. married a heiress of the Pooleys, and sold it to Mrs. Crowley. It was afterwards vested in the Earl of Ashburnham and Charles Boone, esq. The impropriation was given to the Templars by Robert Fitz Jefferey and Beatrice his wife; and a chantry here was valued at 10*l.* per annum. About a mile from Badley, on the same side of the road, is

Combs. This, in the 43d of Edward III., was the lordship of Robert de Ufford; then it came into the family of the Willoughbys, Lords of Eresby, and from them to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, who married the heiress of the Willoughbys. It came afterwards into the possession of the Daundys. It was for some time the seat of the Bridgmans. William Bridgman (son of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chester, who was brother of Sir Orlando, Keeper of the Great Seal in the reign of Charles II.) was clerk of the council in the reigns of King Charles II., James II., King William and Queen Mary. His son, Orlando Bridgman, esq. rebuilt the hall, which, after his death, was sold to Mr. Crowley, by whose heirs it was afterwards pulled down.

Another manor here was granted to Dartford nunnery, and afterwards, in the thirty-fifth of Henry VIII., to Sir Richard Gresham, knt.

On the other side of the road, and about two miles to the right, is situated

Creeting St. Peter, or West Creeting. This is a rectory in the hundred of Stow. The three other Creetings are in the hundred of Bosmere, and will be noticed hereafter. The manor and advowson of this

church were some years since vested in the heirs of Mr. Glover of Frostenden. About twelve miles from Ipswich, on the high road, is

Stowmarket. This appellation is given to distinguish it from Stowlangtoft, Stow-upland, West Stow, &c. Stowmarket is very nearly in the centre of the county, at the junction of the three rivulets which form the river Gipping. The two that rise near the villages of Gipping and Wetherden wash the east side of the town; and the other, rising at Rattlesden, meets them at the south end of it, near Combs Ford. Stowmarket is a thriving town, and, according to the returns of 1811, contains 390 houses and 2006 inhabitants. Its fairs are on the 10th of June and on the 12th of August. The chief ornaments of Stowmarket are the church and its spire. The church is a spacious and beautiful building, with a square tower, surmounted by a steeple 120 feet high, which, though of wood, has a light and elegant appearance. It contains a peal of eight bells, and a good organ. In this church are interred several individuals of the family of the Tyrrels, of Gipping Hall, in this hundred. Here is also a monument for Dr. Young, once vicar of this place, and tutor to the immortal Milton. The contiguous parish of Stow-upland, which has neither church nor chapel, is now consolidated with Stowmarket, but they have still distinct officers for each parish.

The county meetings are chiefly held in this town; and here is a manufacture of sacking, ropes, twine, and hempen, which has succeeded that of stuffs and bombazines. Being well situated for the barley-trade, the market of this town is much frequented by the farmers, for a considerable distance round, and con-

Engraved by W. Hooker from a Drawing by T. Higham for the Excursions through Suffolk.

STOWMARKET CHURCH.

SUFFOLK.

sequently much business is done here in the malting line, in which there are from fifteen to twenty houses.

A principal source of the prosperity of Stowmarket is the navigable canal from this place to Ipswich, opened in 1793. It is sixteen miles in length, and has fifteen locks, each sixty feet long, and fourteen wide; three built with timber, and twelve with brick and stone. The total expense incurred in this undertaking was 26,380*l.* The charges for the conveyance of goods upon it are one penny per ton per mile, from Stow to Ipswich, and half as much from the latter town to Stowmarket. Some idea may be formed of the beneficial effects of this navigation from the statement, that soon after its completion it had reduced the price of land-carriage more than one-half, and the carriage only upon coals four shillings per chaldron, and consequently raised the rent of land considerably. Independently of its utility, this canal is a great ornament to the town: from the bason there is an agreeable walk, about a mile in length, along the towing-path, winding chiefly through hop-plantations, of which there are about 150 acres in this neighbourhood.

An old mansion-house, called Abbot's Hall, together with the manor of Stowmarket, was given by King Henry II. to the abbey of St. Osyth, in Essex, but was granted, 38 Henry VIII., as part of the possession of that monastery, to Thomas Darcie.

The house of industry for the hundred of Stow stands on an eminence about a mile from the town. It has rather the appearance of a gentleman's seat than of a receptacle for paupers. It was erected at an expense of more than 12,000*l.* and opened in 1781.

Proceeding from Stowmarket, we pass Tot Hill, and about a mile farther is

Haughley, variously written in old records, and was in ancient times a market-town, out of the ruins of which Stow seems to have arisen. In the third year of Edward IV. William Hoxon, of Stow, was fined for lying in wait near the town of Haughley, and buying chickens, eggs, and the like; and in 31 Henry VIII. the butchers of the former place were amerced 3*s*. 4*d*. because they sold meat out of the market on a market-day, contrary to the custom of this manor. In the following year the amercement was doubled, but the market has long been disused. The village has a fair yearly, on August 15, being the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, to whom the church is dedicated.

Near the church are the remains of a very strong castle, which is conjectured to have been a Saxon structure. Kirby takes it for granted that it was the same building which went by the name of Hageneth Castle, which was in the custody of Ralf de Broc, and was demolished in 1173 by the Flemings under Robert, Earl of Leicester, who committed great devastations in this county. It afterwards belonged to the de Uffords, Earls of Suffolk, the last of whom died possessed of it, 43 Edward III., as did William de la Pole, who enjoyed the same title, 28 Henry VI. The figure of this castle approaches to a square, fortified with a deep ditch, or moat; and except on the north side, a proportionable rampart, still entire. Toward the north, upon a high artificial hill of steep ascent, and also surrounded with a deep moat, stood the keep, or strong

tower, the foundation of which now remaining is very thick, and apparently circular. On the west side is a pretty large space, in form resembling an oblong square, that seems to have been an out-work of the castle, the east side of which abuts upon the moat before-mentioned, and is somewhat irregular. The north and west sides are rectangular, and encompassed with a smaller moat, as was perhaps the south side, though there is now no appearance of it. The ground exceeds seven acres, which is occupied or enclosed by these works.

The manor and park of Haughley were the estate of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, from whom they came by purchase or exchange to the crown, and were afterwards granted to Sir John Sulyard, of Wetherden. The manor is very extensive, and the lord formerly possessed a jurisdiction of *Oyer* and *Terminer*, trying all causes in his own court, of which instances may be found so late as 11 Elizabeth. Thus at a court held 15 Edward IV. the lands, tenements, &c. of John Buxton, of Stow, were seized because he had vexed one William Turner, by the writ of our lord the king, contrary to the ancient custom of the manor, that no tenant should prosecute another tenant in any court except this. At another court in the same year, it was ordered, that the abbot of Hales in Gloucestershire, to whom the parishes of Haughley and Shelland were impropriated, should erect a new pair of gallows in Luberlow-field in Haughley, under a penalty of forty shillings; and in the 8th year of the same reign, William Baxteyn held certain lands by the service of finding a ladder for the lord's gallows.

Haughley Park was lately the residence of G. W.

Jerningham, esq. eldest son of Sir W. Jerningham, bart. who married Frances, daughter and co-heiress of the late E. Sulyard, esq.; but the public papers state, that in October, 1811, this manor, extending over 2442 acres, 22 dwelling-houses, and 28 messuages, with the spacious mansion-house and offices, and a park and land containing about 396 acres, were sold for 27,840*l.* exclusive of timber. Here is the seat of Charles Tyrell, esq. who married Mr. Ray's heir. William Crawford, esq. is now possessor.

Newton was one of the estates belonging to Margaret, Countess of Salisbury, at her death, 33 Henry VIII. This lady was the daughter of George, Duke of Clarence, brother to Edward IV. by Isabel, the daughter of Richard Neville, the celebrated Earl of Warwick and Salisbury. She married Richard Pole, Lord Montague, whom she survived, and upon her petition to Henry VII. obtained the possessions of her grandfather, and the title of Countess of Salisbury. It was probably her proximity in blood to the royal house of York that gave umbrage to the jealous tyranny of Henry VIII., who caused her to be accused of a traitorous correspondence with the Marquis of Exeter, her son Cardinal Pole, and others. She was accordingly attainted of high treason, and in the 70th year of her age beheaded in the Tower of London, with circumstances of great cruelty. She had been condemned, as was not unusual in that reign, without trial, and when she was brought to the scaffold, refused to lay her head on the block, in obedience to a sentence, the justice of which she would never recognize. She told the executioner, therefore, that, if he would have her head, he must win it the best way he could, and ran

Engraved by T. Bray for the Excursions through Suffolk from a Drawing by Lady Cunningham

HAUGHLEY PARK,

The Seat of Wm. Crawford Esqr.

SUFFOLK.

Pubd. Sept. 1. 1818 by J. Longman & Co. Paternoster Row

about the scaffold, while he pursued her, aiming many fruitless blows at her neck before he was able to put an end to her life. Newton Hall, with her other estates, passed, however, to her son Henry Pole, Lord Montague.

Turning to the left at Haughley New-street, we pass Harleston, and about a mile farther observe

Shelland. This was the lordship of the Bourchiers, Earls of Essex, from whom it descended to the family of Devereux, and was sold in 1591 by that great and unhappy favourite of Queen Elizabeth, Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex. The manor of Rockylls in Shelland formerly belonged to the Drurys, a family of great note in this county.

Onehouse, about a mile south of Shelland, is supposed to have formerly belonged to the Weylands, and was certainly the estate of Bartholomew Burghersh, who died seised of it in the 43d year of Edward III. He was one of the twelve noblemen to whose care the Prince of Wales was committed at the battle of Cressy. On the site of his old hall encompassed with a moat, a farm-house has been built. The grandeur and solitary situation of the ancient fabric probably gave name to the parish, the greater part of which, two centuries ago, was a wood, except a narrow slip declining to the south-east, near that distinguished mansion, situated on a rising ground that gently sloped into a valley, with a rivulet winding through it. About two hundred yards to the north of the moat stands the church, which is small, and has a font of unhewn stone. It appears to have been a Saxon building; but a part of the north wall only, extending about ten yards from the tower, which is

circular, is all that remains of the original structure. Not less than one-fifth of the lands belonging to this parish, at present, consists of woods and groves, finely planted with timber; and even part of the rectorial glebe, adjoining to the parsonage-house, is a wood of ten or twelve acres.

In the chancel of the church of Onehouse lies buried, but without any inscription, the Rev. Charles Davy, author of Letters upon the Subjects of Literature, in two volumes, octavo, &c. In the preface to this work, he says, "Most of these little essays were written many years ago: they have been collected from detached papers, and revised for publication as a relief to the author's mind during a confinement of more than eighteen months continuance. It seemed good to the Supreme Disposer of all things to reduce him in a moment, by an apoplectic stroke, from the most perfect state of health and cheerfulness, to a paralytic permanent debility; a debility which has not only fixed him to his chair, but brought on spasms, so exquisitely painful, and frequently so unremitted, as scarcely to allow a single hour's repose to him for many days and nights together. Under the pressure of these afflictions, God hath graciously been pleased to continue to him his accustomed flow of spirits, and to preserve his memory and his understanding in some degree of vigour. These alleviating blessings have enabled him to borrow pleasure from past times in support of the present, and to call back the delightful and instructing conversations he enjoyed in a society of worthy and ingenious friends, and to resume those studies and amusements which rendered the former part of his life happy."

The following lines are extracted from a translation of a Latin poem, by the Rev. Charles Davy, written in the reign of James I. entitled *Ædes Solitaria.* "I shall," says he, "apply them to the spot where it has pleased the Divine Providence to place me, in which I hope to close the evening of my life."

"No gilded roofs here strain the gazer's eye,
No goblets flow with noxious luxury;
Sleep, balmy sleep, here rests his downy wings,
Nor waits the purple pomp of gorgeous coverings.
No gems here dazzle th' offended sight,
No trilling airs inspire unchaste delight;
No servile bands with crouching necks appear,
Not Flattery's self can find admission here.
But lofty groves of beauteous forms are seen,
The builder Oak, the Fir for ever green;
The tow'ring Ash, whose clust'ring tops receive
The rising sun, and deck the ruddy eve:
The Alder brown, that loves the wat'ry vales,
The Asp light quiv'ring to the summer gales;
The Willow pendent o'er the mazy stream,
The Poplar huge, the Elm's extended beam;
Their different colours here display and vie
In all the tints of varied harmony.
No sordid views deprive the soul of rest,
No passions here disturb the lab'ring breast;
Save Grief that sickens at another's woe,
And bids the melting sorrows *sweetly* flow.
Far from the madding people's furious strife,
Far from the anxious cares of busy life;
Beneath this straw-thatch'd roof, this humble cell,
Calm Peace, and Friendship pure, delight to dwell."

The straw-thatched roof alluded to in these lines is the parsonage-house, now the residence of the Rev. Daniel Pettiward, M. A. rector of the parish, and vicar of Great Finborough, "whose valuable and extensive

library will afford ample gratification to the bibliomaniac, and whose kind and hospitable manners will ever endear him to his friends."

About two miles from Haughley, on the right of the road, we pass *Newton*, an inconsiderable village before mentioned; and about two miles beyond that place is

GIPPING, a hamlet, deriving its name from one of the springs forming the river of this name. It is chiefly remarkable as the seat of the ancient family of Tyrrel, descended from Sir Walter Tyrrel, knt. who held the lordship of Langham in Essex, at the time of the general survey. William Tyrrel, of Gipping, was the second son of Sir Walter Tyrrel, who was the eighth knight in a lineal descent from Sir Walter, first named. He was the father of James Tyrrel, Captain of Guisnes in France, in the reign of Henry VII.

WETHERDEN is a short distance from the high road, nearly opposite to Haughley Park. Here was situated *Wetherden Hall*, the residence of the ancient and respectable family of the Sulyards, which, to judge from its ruins, must have been a large and noble building. It remained as that seat till the reign of Queen Mary, who, to reward the fidelity of Sir John Sulyard, the first who took up arms and levied men for her service, against the supporters of Lady Jane Grey, made a grant to him of the manor and park of Haughley, on which he erected a mansion there. His son, Edward, adhering to the religion of his ancestors, suffered much during the next reign for recusancy, notwithstanding the unimpeached loyalty of his sentiments and conduct. The fidelity of Sir Edward, the grandson of the latter, to the cause of Charles I. brought on

WOOLPIT CHURCH,
SUFFOLK.

him the imprisonment of his person, and the sequestration of two-thirds of his estate, during Cromwell's usurpation: but when Charles II. recovered his throne, he was restored to his possessions and his liberty. His descendants continued at Wetherden for several succeeding generations.

In this village is a very neat church, the porch of which, and a large aisle continued from it to the chancel, were built by Sir John Sulyard, who, in the pedigree of that family, is called a judge only; but in the Baronetage of England is said to have been lord chief justice of England. A grant of free-warren here was, 1 Richard III., confirmed to him and to Ann his wife, who was the daughter of John Andrews, of Bailham, in this county, by Elizabeth Stratton, and lineal descendant of Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, and of his countess Elizabeth, daughter of King Edward I. Round the porch of this church, and along the chancel, are finely carved the arms and quarterings of the family of Sulyard, to the period when the aisle was built.

Proceeding along the road, we next arrive at WOOLPIT, or WOLPIT. This is said, in the Monasticon, to have been given to Bury Abbey, both by Edward the Confessor and Earl Ulfketel: however, the manor, advowson of the rectory, a warren, and a great many lands, pastures, and woods, in Elmswell and Wolpit, were granted, in the eighth year of James I., to Sir Robert Gardiner, knt. as parcels of the possessions of Bury Abbey.

The church of Woolpit is a handsome structure, being a beautiful specimen of the florid Gothic; and the porch may vie in elegance with any in the county.

The celebrated brick which is made here, and bears the name of the place, has been used in the construction of several gentlemen's seats, &c. on account of its superior whiteness and excellent qualities.

About a mile to our left we observe *Drinkstone*. Henry Lord Bourchier died seised of this manor in the twenty-third of Edward III. Here is the capital seat of Joshua Grigby, esq.

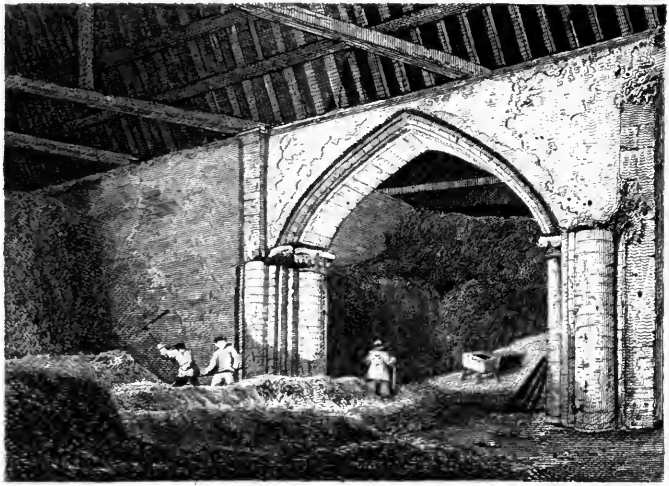
On the same side of the road are the villages of *Felsham* and *Gedding*. The former belonged to the abbot of Bury by the gift of Earl Ulfketel. There is a neat mansion here, lately the seat of Dr. Scott, and a considerable fair for lambs on the 5th of August.

Gedding. In this parish is the seat of the Bokenham family. The advowson of the church was, by the will of Jeremiah Catling, given to the corporation of Ipswich; and, upon a vacancy of the bailiffs, the recorder and town-clerk for the time being are to nominate a clerk.

About two miles from Woolpit, on the opposite side of the road to Drinkstone, is

Tostock. This manor anciently belonged to Brathulf, son of Leomar; and Baldwin, abbot of Bury St. Edmund's, begged this and some other estates of William the Conqueror. Afterwards it came to the family of the Lords North and Grey, who had their seat at Tostock Place. It is probable that there was another manor, as that of Tostock Hall is said to have been William Berdewell's, anno domini 1445.

Thurston lies about two miles farther to the right. Thomas de Multon, of Egremont, 18 Edward I. obtained a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the eve, day, and morrow of St. Mary Magdalen, at his ma-



Part of

THE NUNNERY THETFORD,

SUFFOLK.

nor of Thurstanston, in Suffolk, which is supposed to have been this place. John de Multon, his son, died seised of it, 8 Edward III. From Thurston a road leads us back to the high-road, which we shall cross, and pass *Beighton*, a small village, the rectory of which is in the gift of the Lord Chancellor, and thence proceed to

Hesset, or Hedgsett. This was the lordship of the Abbot of Bury, by the gift of Earl Ulfketel. In 32 of Henry VIII. it was granted to Thomas Bacon.

Nearly adjoining to this place, and bringing us within three miles of Bury, the end of our present excursion, is

Rougham, which was given to the Abbey of Bury by Earl Ulfketel, and granted, 34 Henry VIII., to Sir Arthur Drury, in whose family it continued till 1640. Rougham Hall was formerly part of the estate belonging to the Drurys. At the north-east corner of Rougham church is an ancient monument of Sir Roger Drury and his lady, the daughter and sole heiress of Sir Robert Naunton. They are interred beneath a flat stone, adorned with their figures in brass, about four feet high, and this inscription in black letter:

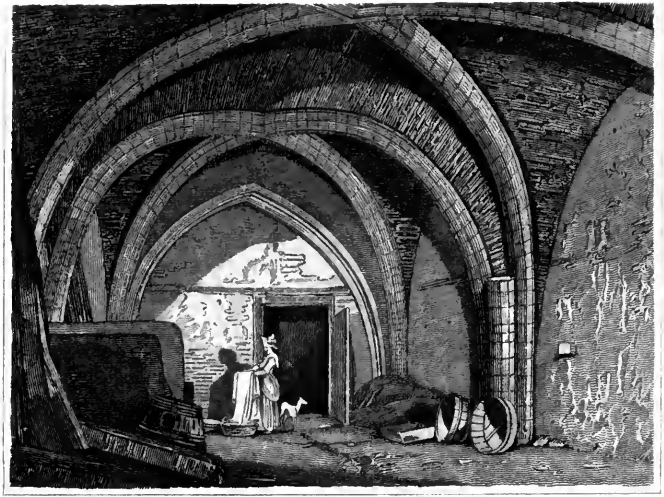
> Hic jacet Dns Rogus Drury, miles qui obiit——die Mens Anno Domini M°CCCC° et Margeria Ux' ej' que obiit iiij die Mens Septeb. Anno Domine M°CCCCV° quorum aiab' &c.

This is supposed to be the most ancient monument of the Drurys that can be ascertained. Its preservation, like that of many others, is owing to a pew having been built over it. If pews, as Weever complains, hide many monuments of the dead, they cannot be

denied the merit of having saved some from destruction. On the north side of the chancel is a mural monument in memory of Sir Robert Drury and his lady, the youngest daughter of Sir William Drury of Hawsted. From the inscription it appears that she died in 1621. The date of his death, at the age of 82, is left incomplete. Two singular purchases, which tend to illustrate the manners of the higher classes between two and three hundred years ago, are said to have been made by a lady of this family. By indenture dated 10 Henry VIII., Sir William Waldegrave sold to Margaret Drury of Rougham, widow, the wardship of Edmund Wrest, to be married with Dorothy Drury, her daughter. By another indenture, of the like date, it appears that the same lady bought of Robert Radcliffe, Lord Fitzwalter and Egremont, the wardship of Elizabeth Day, one of the daughters and heirs of Robert Day, late of Sterstone, Norfolk, deceased, whom she married to her second son, Francis. Roger Kedington, esq. has a seat here.

Another mansion in this parish was the seat of the Maltywards, at a very early period. In this parish is also the manor of *Eldo*, *Old Hall*, or *Old Haugh*, as it is styled in most ancient books. It was a grange of the abbey of Bury, and was granted by Henry VIII. with other large demesnes, to the Jermyns.

Rougham brings us within four miles of Bury, where we proposed ending our excursion. But in our journey thence to Thetford we omitted noticing the latter place, designing to have given the description of it entire in the county of Norfolk; but, for the purpose of making each county complete in itself, we have been induced to alter our first plan, and therefore retrace our steps

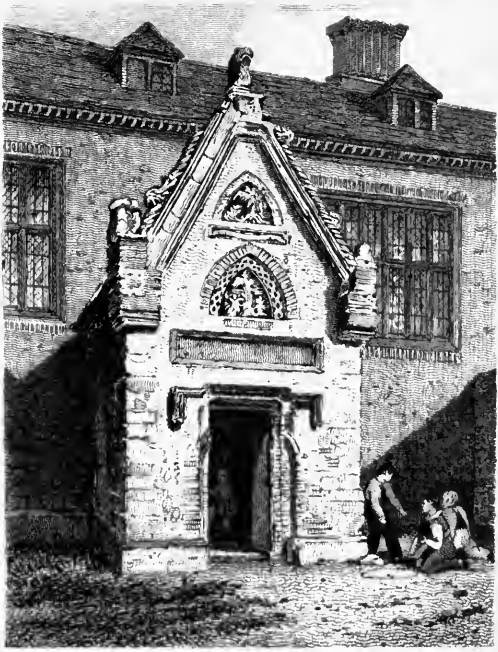


Engraved by W. Deeble from a Drawing by J.S. Cotman for the Excursions through Suffolk.

Interior of

THE NUNNERY THETFORD,

SUFFOLK.



Porch of the

FREE SCHOOL, NEWTON FORD,

SUFFOLK.

:o Thetford, in order to describe that part of it still considered as belonging to this county.

The whole, or at least the greatest part, of Thetford seems to have been originally on the Suffolk side of the Little Ouse, where, in the reign of Edward III., were situated thirteen out of the twenty parishes, which it then comprehended; and there is still one parish, St. Mary's, with about thirty houses in Suffolk.

In this part of Thetford are the remains of the nunnery founded by Uvius, the first abbot of St. Edmund's Bury, in commemoration of the number of persons who fell at Snareshill, near the town, in the sanguinary conflict between King Edmund's army and the forces under the Danish leaders Ingwar and Ubba. A few monks were placed in this priory, which was then considered as a cell to Bury Abbey. In 1176, the monks having been reduced to two, they, by the request of the abbot of Bury, resigned, and he placed there, in their stead, a convent of nuns, who had previously resided at Lynn. At the dissolution it was granted to Sir Richard Fulmerston, who made the house his residence. Afterwards it was let to a farmer, and some years since the greater part of it was taken down. A new farm-house has since been built of the materials, and a part of the old building used as a dairy, &c. The conventual church has been converted into a barn. Some of the walls, with buttresses, windows, &c. remain.

The free grammar school is also on the Suffolk side of the river, near St. Mary's church. In the year 1566, Sir Richard Fulmerston bequeathed, by will, certain property to remunerate a priest for preaching four times a year, in the parish church of St. Mary, and for

the purpose of erecting a free-school, with dwelling-houses for the master and usher, who were to receive adequate salaries; and a habitation for two poor men and two poor women, who were to be allowed weekly pensions. Somehow or other the benevolent intentions of the donor as to the funds were not carried into effect till the time of James I., when, upon a petition of the townsmen, it was enacted, by the authority of parliament, that there should be for ever a free grammar school and hospital; and that the master of the school, who should be the preacher, according to the will of the testator, with the usher, and the four poor people, should be a body politic, under the title of "The master and fellows of the school and hospital at Thetford, founded by King James I. according to the will of Sir Richard Fulmerston, knt." Dr. Caius, in his History of Cambridge, conjectures that the school, which Sigebert, king of the East Angles, set up after his return from France, mentioned by Bede, was erected here. That a seminary for learned and religious instruction was established in this metropolis of the East Anglian dominions is highly probable; but no notice occurs prior to the year 1329, when it appears, by the Episcopal Institutions, that John de Mordon was collated to the mastership by the bishop.

EXCURSION VI.

From Ipswich through Claydon, Crecting All Saints, Little Stonham Pye, Brockford, Thwaite, Stoke, Yaxley, and Broome, to the Scole Inn.

LEAVING Ipswich, we observe on our left the village of

SPROUGHTON, about a mile and a half from the road. A good part of this parish is in the liberties and borough of Ipswich; but the manor, hall-house, advowson of the rectory, &c. were parts of the Felton estate, and came with that of Shotley to the Earl of Bristol. The *Chantry*, the seat of C. S. Collinson, esq. built by Edward Ventriss, esq. master of his majesty's court of Chancery, is so called in consequence of its erection upon the lands given by Edward Daundy for endowing a chantry in the parish church of St. Lawrence, Ipswich. Near to this was the residence of Admiral Harland.

Sproughton Hall is now the seat of John Smith, esq.

At three miles distance from Ipswich we pass the village of AKENHAM on our right. This was the lordship of Hugh le Rous, in King John's time, when he was admitted to his freedom of Ipswich, and paid a fine for freedom from toll for himself and his villains in Akenham, Hemingston Hasketon, and elsewhere. Here is *Rice Hall*, corruptly so called from being the residence of the Rous family. The church has been consolidated with Claydon.

CLAYDON is three miles and a half from Ipswich.

In this village the road divides: that straight from Ipswich leads to Norwich, and that on the left to Bury St. Edmund's. We pursue the former. Thomas Southwell, esq. had the manor in the 9th Elizabeth. About half a mile to the right is Rougham Hall.

Rather more than a mile beyond this place, on the same side of the road, is

Barham. This manor, with the advowson and rectory, belonged to the prior and convent of Ely, and at the suppression was granted, with a wood called Bergham Coppice, to John Southwell, esq. In the chancel of the church is a fine monument to the memory of one of this family. In this parish stands the house of industry for the incorporated hundred of Bosmere and Claydon.

Nettlestead lies about two miles to our left; and to our former account we wish to add, that the lordship of Nettlestead belonged to the Earls of Richmond and Brittany, from the Norman Conquest to the 17th of Henry II., when Conan, the last earl, died. Sir Peter Mauclere, who married Alice, the daughter of Constance, the only daughter and heiress of Conan, by Guy de Thouars, had livery of this lordship and manor, in the 15th of Henry III. By a special charter, dated May 1, 1241, these, with other estates, were given by Henry III. to Peter de Savoy, the queen's uncle, who, dying without issue, left them to that princess. This lordship was soon after granted to Robert de Tibetot, in consideration of his adherence to the king against his rebellious barons, and who died here in the 25th of Edward I. From him it was transmitted to his descendants; when, in the 46th of Edward III., Robert de Tibetot dying without issue

Engraved by T. Barber from a Drawing by T. Higham for the Excursions through Suffolk

MOCK BEGGAR'S HALL, CLAYDON,

The Property of N. L. Acton Esq^r

SUFFOLK.

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male, left three daughters, his co-heirs, Margaret, Milicent, and Elizabeth, who being then in minority, were given in ward to Richard le Scrope, of Bolton, who disposed of Margaret to Roger le Scrope, his eldest son, Milicent to Stephen, his third son, and Elizabeth to Philip le Despenser, the younger. These daughters, in the 9th of Richard III., making proof of their respective ages, had livery of their lands; in the partition whereof the lordship and manor of Nettlestead became vested in Philip le Despenser. By his only daughter and heir, Margery, who married first to John, Lord Roos, and afterwards, in 1450, to Sir Roger Wentworth, the manor was brought into that family, the representative of which, in the 2d of Henry VIII., was summoned to parliament, by writ, as Lord Wentworth of Nettlestead; to which honour Charles I. added the Earldom of Cleveland. In this family the lordship of Nettlestead continued till about 1643, when Thomas, the first Earl of Cleveland, sold it to William Lodge, a citizen of London. It afterwards belonged to Mr. John Fuller of Ipswich, whose only daughter and heir carried it, by marriage, into the Bradley family; from them it came to the late General Philipson, and was purchased by Mr. Lionel Henry Moore, in 1813.

Till within these few years past, a very considerable portion of the *Old Hall* was remaining in its pristine state. It is situated near the church, and was formerly surrounded by a wall, a great part of which is still existing. The gateway remains; and on the spandrils of the arch are two shields, sculptured with the Wentworth arms and other numerous quarterings. The mansion has been lately modernised and new fronted, by the present proprietor.

Henrietta Maria, the sole daughter and heir of Thomas, Lord Wentworth, who died in 1686, was the celebrated and beloved mistress of the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth. On the death of the first Earl of Cleveland, her grandfather, she succeeded to the barony of Wentworth for want of male issue. She was a woman of an elegant person, most engaging manners, and the highest accomplishments. She resided many years at Toddington, in Bedfordshire, with the duke, her lover, whose attachment to her continued to his death. The duke acknowledged, just before his death, to two prelates and other divines, who attended him, "that he and Lady Wentworth had lived in all points like man and wife," but they could not make him confess it was adultery. He acknowledged that he and his duchess were married by the law of the land, and therefore his children might inherit, if the king pleased. But he did not consider what he did when he married her. He said, that since that time he had an affection for Lady Henrietta, and prayed, that, if it were pleasing to God, it might continue. The affection did continue, and therefore he doubted not it was pleasing to God; and that this was a marriage—their choice of one another being guided by judgment upon due consideration. When he addressed himself to the people from the scaffold, he said Lady Henrietta was a woman of great honour and virtue, a religious and godly lady. He was told, by some of the divines, of his living in adultery with her; he said, no. For these two years last past he had not lived in any sin that he knew of; and that he was sure, when he died, to go to God, and therefore he did not fear death, which they might see in his face.

Under these delusions, destructive of all order and social happiness, the unfortunate duke met his death with a courage rather chivalrous than rational; and Lady Wentworth, the lamented object of his passion, is said to have died broken-hearted in consequence of his untimely end. After this, the barony descended to her aunt Anne, the daughter of Thomas, Earl of Cleveland, and wife of John, Lord Lovelace. Mrs. Cobbold, of Holy Wells, Ipswich, has thus described Lady Wentworth and her royal paramour.

Through the echoing covert the bugle resounds,
The shouts of the chase and the cry of the hounds;
And, gallantly riding, the hunters are seen,
In bonnets and feathers, and surcoats of green:
The merry Lord Lovelace is leading them all,
To feast with his Cousin in Nettlestead Hall.
That Cousin is wealthy, that Cousin is fair,
Is Wentworth's, and Cleveland's, and Nettlestead's heir;
Her smile is the sunshine of innocent youth,
Her heart is the throne of affection and truth;
Her dark glossy ringlets luxuriantly flow,
Contrasting and arching her forehead of snow;
The flowret of beauty and sweetness they call
Henrietta, the lily of Nettlestead Hall.
A stranger, in manhood and gallantry's pride,
The merry Lord Lovelace has placed by her side:
Forbidden his station and name to disclose,
He calls him "Sir Alured, Knight of the Rose."
How winning his graces and courtesy prove!
His ardent affection soon fixes her love,
And secretly wedlock's soft fetters enthral
Henrietta, the beauty of Nettlestead Hall.
What pages mysterious has fate to unfold!
Her husband is Monmouth, the royal and bold;
And he whom she trusted as loyal and true
Had previously wedded the heir of Buccleugh!

Henley is about a mile and a half to the right of Barham. Here the Vere's family had a seat at least for two hundred years.

Hemingston lies between Henley and Barham, but nearly two miles to the north. This lordship is held by the same kind of tenure as Wattisham. Mr. Brand has a seat here.

Swilland lies above two miles to the east of Hemingston. Bartholomew Burghersh, and after him Edward le Despenser, died seised of this manor, in the time of Edward III. The church was early impropriated to the nuns of Wykes, in Essex, and the impropriation was granted to Cardinal Wolsey, towards the endowment of his college at Ipswich, 1528.

Ashbocking lies about a mile north-east of Hemingstone. Here is a manor called Ketts de Campo, and another called Ash Hall, the property of the Earl of Dysart. The church here was impropriated, in 1326, to the prior and convent of Christ Church, Canterbury.

Codenham lies about a mile and a half to the westward. The church here was given to Royston priory by Eustachius de Mere, the founder, about the year 1220. Here is the manor of Dennies, and here stood the manor-house of *Shrubland Hall*, where Edward, third son of the Lord Keeper Bacon, became seated, by his marriage with the heiress of Little. Nicholas Bacon, one of his descendants, erected a new mansion in a very pleasant park, which contains the finest Spanish chesnut trees in the county. This edifice having been pulled down, a new one was built in its stead, and became the residence of Sir William Middleton, the present possessor, who was created a ba-

SHRUBLAND PARK.

The Seat of Sir Wm Middleton Bart

SUFFOLK

ronet in 1804. It commands an extensive prospect along the Norwich road. Here is also a manor called the Vicarage, being always vested in the vicar for the time being. From Codenham we rejoin the high-road at Bridge Place, and proceed to Creeting Bottom.

CREETING is a name possessed in common by three contiguous parishes in this hundred. *Creeting St. Peter,* in Stow hundred, has been already mentioned; but *Creeting All Saints* is in the hundred of Bosmere, as are likewise *Creeting St. Olave* and *Creeting St. Mary,* and all lie on our left. The church of All Saints is very ancient, but that of St. Olave has been long taken down, and the two rectories consolidated in 1711. St. Olave was standing in 1532, when John Pinkeney ordered his body to be interred in the chancel. Creeting St. Mary is also a rectory, the parish church of which is close to Creeting All Saints; and as they stand very near each other, upon an eminence, they are easily seen at some miles distance, and are commonly called the Two Churches. The first of these, anciently, was most commonly styled the Priory of Creeting, and was a cell to the abbey of Bernay, in Normandy. After the suppression of foreign houses, it became a part of the revenues of Eton College. The manor of Gratinges, in Creeting St. Olave, was given, by Robert, Earl of Morton in Normandy, and of Cornwall in England, in the time of William the Conqueror, to the abbey of Grestein in Normandy, which afterwards erected a priory here. This the abbot and convent sold in 1347, by the king's licence, to Sir Edmund de la Pole, by the names of the manors of Mikelfield and Creeting. The manor and advowson of Creeting All Saints were vested for a considerable

time in the respectable family of Bridgman, by whose heirs they were sold, together with their other estates in these two parishes, to Philip Champion Crespigny, esq.

Crowfield lies about a mile to the right of Creeting Bottom, and is a hamlet to Codenham, and here is *Crowfield Hall*, which formerly belonged to the Woodhouse family, who sold it to John Harbottle, and it now belongs to Sir William Middleton, bart. It is at present the seat of Benjamin Stead, esq.

Helmingham lies nearly three miles to the right of Crowfield. The prioress and nuns of Flexton, near Bungay, were patrons of this rectory till about the year 1320, when they exchanged this patronage with the Bishop of Norwich for that of Flexton. After the Reformation the crown claimed it, and have presented ever since. This parish has been remarkable for a family who took their name from this place, and had their seat at Crekes, now called *Helmingham Hall*. It has been still more celebrated in consequence of being the seat of the ancient and noble family of Tollemache, who are mentioned in Domesday Book as possessing lands. Hugh Tollemache subscribed the charter, sans date, made about the reign of King Stephen, to the abbess of Godstow in Oxfordshire. The family was seated at Bentley in Samford hundred, till Lionel Tollemache, of Bentley, esq. married the heir of Helmingham, by which he acquired the inheritance, and made this place his residence. Lionel, his grandson, was high sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in the 4th of Henry VIII. or 1513. Again, Sir Lionel, the grandson of this gentleman, was high sheriff of Suffolk in the 34th of Elizabeth, and knighted by her. He was

succeeded by his son and heir Lionel, who was created a baronet at the first institution of that dignity in 1611, and was the twelfth person who received that honour.

Sir Lionel Tollemache, grandson of the first baronet, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of William Murray, Earl of Dysart in Scotland; and his son and heir, Sir Lionel, succeeded him in honour and estate; and after the death of his mother (who had married a second husband, John Maitland, Duke of Lauderdale) by the laws of Scotland he became Lord Huntingtower and Earl of Dysart. He was elected knight of the shire for Suffolk in three parliaments called by King William III.; and was again elected knight of the shire till the act of Union of the 6th of Queen Anne declared him a peer of Great Britain. He was, in Queen Anne's reign, Lord Lieutenant, *Custos Rotulorum*, and Vice Admiral of Suffolk, and High Steward of the borough of Ipswich. This noble family have been remarkably fortunate in the possession of a long and uninterrupted succession of male heirs.

Helmingham Hall, the seat of the present Earl of Dysart, is a quadrangular structure, with a court-yard in the centre, built about the time of Henry VIII. of red bricks, which have been since covered with a kind of stucco. It contains some fine paintings; a good library chiefly of early printed books, in excellent condition; and a considerable collection of ancient armour. The house, completely surrounded by a moat filled with water, is approached by two draw-bridges, which still continue to be drawn up every night. The moat, as well as the bason in the park, is frequented by great numbers of wild fowl of different species,

which, from the encouragement given them by the express orders of the noble proprietor, are become almost tame. The park, comprehending 400 acres, contains some of the finest oak-trees in this part of the kingdom; many of them are of great age. It is well stocked with deer, the number of which have amounted to 700, and among them a few stags, or red deer, remarkably large.

The church of Helmingham, embosomed in wood, stands by the side of the park; and here is a cottage which forms a picturesque object, inhabited by a person who takes care of the vault and splendid monuments of the Tollemache family. A monument by Nollekens has been erected to the memory of the lady of the present earl. And here is an inscription upon Lionel Robert Tollemache, esq. He was born Nov. 10, 1774, and embracing early the military profession, in 1791, obtained an ensign's commission in the first regiment of foot guards. Accompanying his regiment to Flanders on the breaking out of the war with France, he was killed before Valenciennes. He was active, diligent, and scientific in his military duties; possessed agreeable manners; spoke the German and French languages with much fluency, and was universally respected as a young man of great promise and attainments. He seems to have had a presentiment of his fate, as a copy of verses was found in his pocket after his death, expressive of the uncertainty of a soldier's life—"one night in all the paraphernalia of dress, the next in a winding-sheet." His remains were brought over from Flanders, and interred in the family vault at Helmingham; where on a beautifully executed monument from the chisel of

Nollekens, adorned with a bust, a medallion, and military trophies, is the following inscription in small capitals, and in two compartments.

This monument was erected to the memory of
Lionel Robert Tollemache, esq.
who lies buried in the vault beneath.
He was the only son of the Honourable Captain
John Tollemache, of the Royal Navy,
and Lady Bridget Henley, daughter of the
Earl of Northington.
His course was short, but it was brilliant!
For at the age of eighteen he died nobly fighting for his
King and Country.
He was an Ensign in the First Regiment of
Foot Guards, and was killed at the
Siege of Valenciennes in July, 1793, by the
bursting of a bomb thrown from
the garrison.
His death was the more unfortunate, as
He was the only British Officer killed on
that occasion.
He was a loss to his country, for
He was a youth of uncommon promise; but
to his family his loss was irreparable!
For by that fatal event it became extinct in the male
line. But the name of Tollemache
has been unfortunate!
The father of, and two uncles of this valiant
youth, like himself, lost their lives
prematurely in the service of their country;
His uncle, the Honourable George Tollemache, was
killed by falling from the mast-head of the
Modeste man of war at sea;
His father, the Honourable John Tollemache,
was killed in a duel at New York;
And another of his uncles, the Honourable
William Tollemache, was lost in the Repulse frigate,
in a hurricane in the Atlantic ocean;

So many instances of disaster are rarely to be met with in the same family.

Thus fell the young, the worthy, and the brave,
With emulation view his honour'd grave.

Framsden lies about two miles north-east of Helmingham. Roger de Montealto, or Monthalt, paid a fine to Ipswich, in King John's time, for freedom from toll for his villains in Framsden; and Roger Montealto died, 25 Edward I., seised of the manor of Framsden in Suffolk, leaving his brother Robert his heir, who, for want of issue, settled this manor, 1 Edward III., upon Isabel, mother to the king, for life; and after her decease to John Eltham, brother to the king, and his heirs for ever. This church was impropriated about 20 Edward III. to the minoresses without Aldgate in London. Here are 108 houses, 573 inhabitants, and a fair on Holy Thursday.

We now turn towards the road, and pass

Pettaugh. This manor formerly belonged to Leiston Abbey, and was granted, 28 Henry VIII., to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk.

From this place, continuing our way to the road, we, at about the distance of a mile and a half, pass

Stonham Aspal. This has been so called from a family of the name of Aspal, or Haspele, who were many years lords and patrons here. It was also called Stonham Antegan. In this parish, very near the church, a branch of the ancient family of Wingfield had a seat called Broughton Hall, and were lords of the manor called Broughton Hall manor. The last possessor of this, the Rev. John Wingfield, M.A. died without male issue, as did also his brother Thomas, who was the last heir male of the family. The estate and manor

was afterwards purchased by Philip Champion Crespigny, esq. In the churchyard is a beautiful monument to the memory of Anthony Wingfield, esq. His effigy in alabaster, much injured by time, is represented in a recumbent posture grasping a serpent.

Stonham Earl is directly on a line with Stonham Aspal, but on the opposite side of the road. This place was so called because it was anciently the lordship of Thomas Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, and afterwards that of William Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, who married the grandaughter of Thomas Brotherton. It was afterwards Sir Thomas Gresham's. The Duke of Norfolk had the grant of a market and a fair here in the first of Edward III., and all the three parishes of Stonham are still a part of the Duke of Norfolk's liberty; but the advowson of the church is in the college of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. Here is Deerbolt's, the ancient seat of the Driver family, whose only heir married Richard Moore, esq. of Kentwell Hall, near Long Melford, and enjoyed this property as her dower.

Stonham Parva, or *Little Stonham*, is on the same side of the road, and is sometimes called *Stonham Jernegan*, because the Jernegans were lords here till the time of Edward VI. The Goodwins afterwards sold the manor to Lady Rivers, from whom it came to Lord Orwell. In this parish is the old mansion of the family of Bloomfield.

Stonham Pye lies on our road. It is understood that one of the family of the Reeves, after they had been burnt out of London by the great fire, purchased the inn, called Stonham Pye, where they resided for many years. From thence their descendants removed to

Harleston, where lately resided Mr. William Reeve, an eminent surgeon, and of considerable property. The Rev. William Reeve, his only son, vicar of Hoxne and Denham, a person of great learning, charity, and generosity, died in 1786, and in him this branch of the family became extinct. Another branch of the family resided at Beldeston. Abbot Reeve appears to have been one of the ancestors of this family, judging from the almost exact similarity of the arms. The Reeves were situated in London some time before the Restoration, and some memorials of them may still be seen in the church of St. Sepulchre.

John Reeve, alias Melford, was the last abbot who presided over the rich and noble abbey of Bury St. Edmund. He was a native of Melford, and was elected abbot in 1514. In 1522, a commission was directed to him to ascertain the bounds of Ipswich, a jury impanneled, and their return filed in Chancery. At the grand funeral solemnity of Abbot Islip, of Westminster, in 1532, he was the principal assistant. On Nov. 4, 1539, after having in vain endeavoured to avert the fatal blow by several humiliating concessions, he was compelled to surrender his splendid and wealthy monastery into the rapacious hands of Henry VIII. An annual pension of 500 marks was assigned him, and he retired from the magnificence of his palace and dignity to a private station, in a large house at the south-west corner of Crown-street, which was the exchequer-room belonging to the abbey, and which has undergone less alteration than any other of the same age in the town of Bury, and where, in 1768, his arms were to be seen in one of the windows with a scroll beneath, inscribed

Dominus Johannes Melford Abbas.

He appears to have fallen a victim to the suddenness of the change, as he very soon sunk under the weight of disappointment and sorrow, occasioned by the havoc and devastation made in his church and abbey; the overthrow of that religion to which he was so firmly attached, with other causes, worked so strongly on his mind, as to produce the chagrin and mortification that brought him to the grave, after having survived the degradation of his order, and the loss of his abbey, only four months.

Among the numerous monuments and ancient gravestones in the church of St. Mary was that of this pious and learned man. He was interred in the middle of the chancel, and over his grave was originally placed a very large flat stone, embellished at the four corners with the arms of the abbey, impaling those of his own family, and also his effigy in brass in full pontificals, with a mitre on his head, and a crosier in his hand. But this ancient stone was most indecently broken and removed in 1717 by some Goths of the 18th century, to make room for a new one to cover the remains of a Mr. Sutton, who was buried in the very grave of the ex-abbot. The Latin inscription on the stone has been thus translated in "Abbot Reeves Lament," by a lady of Ipswich.

With mem'ry's grateful tribute *Bury* owns
Her mitred Lord: here rest his humble bones:
His honour'd birth shall Suffolk's Melford claim,
John his baptismal, *Reeve* his natal name.
Heroic, prudent, learned, and benign,
And just was he, and lov'd his vows divine.
The day he saw, when our Eighth Henry's hand
For one and thirty years had rul'd this land!

And when the spring, her charming course begun
In March, an equal term of days had run,
Sped by the Angels bright he reach'd his goal,
O, gracious God! have mercy on his soul!

Mickfield is about a mile to our right. Two manors are mentioned here, viz. Wolney Hall and Flede Hall; the first belonged to the alien priory of Grestein in Normandy, and is supposed to have been sold by that convent to Tydemannus de Lymbergh, about the year 1347.

Winston is about two miles farther to the east. A manor here, and the impropriation of the church, with the advowson of the vicarage, belongs to the dean and chapter of Ely; another, that formerly belonged to the nuns of Brusyard, was granted in the 30th of Henry VIII. to Nicholas Hare.

Ashfield lies two miles to the right of Winston. This manor and impropriation formerly belonged to the priory of Butley, but were granted in the 34th of Henry VIII. to Francis Framlingham. The church has been in ruins many years past. Thorp is a hamlet belonging to Ashfield.

From this place we turn again towards the road, and, at the distance of three miles, arrive at Debenham.

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FOR PLACING THE PLATES.

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